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Overseas edition

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THE UNIVERSITY OF JORDAN SERIALS DIVISION

World reaction to shelter deaths and success of air attacks mean Bush may not wait

Bombing of bunker hastens land war

By Peter Stothard in Washington and Robin Oakley in London

THE chances of an early ground war appeared to grow yesterday with reports that a third of Iraq's tanks in and near Kuwait had been destroyed. There were also suggestions in Washington that the timetable towards a land offensive had been accelerated after the deaths of hundreds of civilians in the bunker bombing in Baghdad on Tuesday.

Iraqi tanks, artillery and hardened aircraft shelters are being destroyed at a rapidly increasing rate, reflecting the intensified bombardment of the occupying forces.

In Riyadh, Brigadier-General Richard Neal said that more than 1,300 of Iraq's 4,000 tanks, 1,100 of its 3,100 artillery pieces and 800 of its 2,800 armoured personnel carriers had been destroyed. That was nearly double the tally General Neal reported last week. British sources put the figure slightly lower.

The success of the allies' air power, backed up by artillery fire from batteries in Saudi Arabia and battleships in the Gulf, would appear to hasten the day when President Bush decides that the entrenched Iraqi army has been sufficiently devastated to make a relatively bloodless ground offensive possible.

Last week, Mr Bush said that he was prepared to let the air war continue "for a while" after his military chiefs had advised him to wait a month before launching a ground war. But the results of the attacks on the forces in Kuwait, coupled with the public relations fallout from the bombing of the bunker on Tuesday mean he is now unlikely to wait that long.

America is reassessing its targeting to try to avoid similar public relations disaster, but officials were pessimistic about how far real improvements in air tactics could be made. One idea being considered is publicising attacks on certain "dual use" targets in advance. But prior knowledge of bombing raids would greatly assist the enemy in shooting down the planes or missiles used.

The political rhetoric is also becoming harder to keep consistent. Mr Bush has made a central point that this war will not be another Vietnam. The prime meaning is that America will not fight with one hand behind its back and that the commanders will have a free hand to win the war as fast as they can. The president has insisted, for example, that the presence of hostages or prisoners of war as "human shields" would not intimidate American attacks.

The second meaning of "no new Vietnam" is that the country will be spared the horrors of killing civilians, that the advances in technology and intelligence mean that a war machine can be destroyed with out a Gulf War equivalent of "village burning". The early success of smart weapons and skilful "blood-free" public relations has played a big part in maintaining the high level of domestic support for Operation Desert Storm.

Defence department officials now say it was perhaps inevitable that President Saddam Hussein would show the political ruthlessness and skill to turn the allies' technological advantage against them, purposely putting civilians in the path of laser-guided bombs.

The officials add that if the White House is not careful, the president will appear to be more sensitive to the political fallout abroad from Arab civilian deaths than he is to the deaths of Americans placed in danger by Saddam.

Senior planners admit that this boosts the argument for an accelrated change of emphasis to diversionary tactics and to an earlier start for the ground war.

In London yesterday, the British war cabinet expressed their determination that the political difficulties created by the Amiriya bombing should not be allowed to push the allied forces into a premature land campaign.

Mr Bush reassured the prime minister in a 15-minute telephone conversation yesterday of the validity of intelligence reports that the bunker in which hundreds of civilians died also housed an Iraqi command and communications centre.

Suspicions were voiced in the war cabinet that Saddam was sufficiently careless of Iraqi lives to be willing to trick allied forces into bombing other installations housing civilians to exploit the propaganda possibilities of further non-military casualties.

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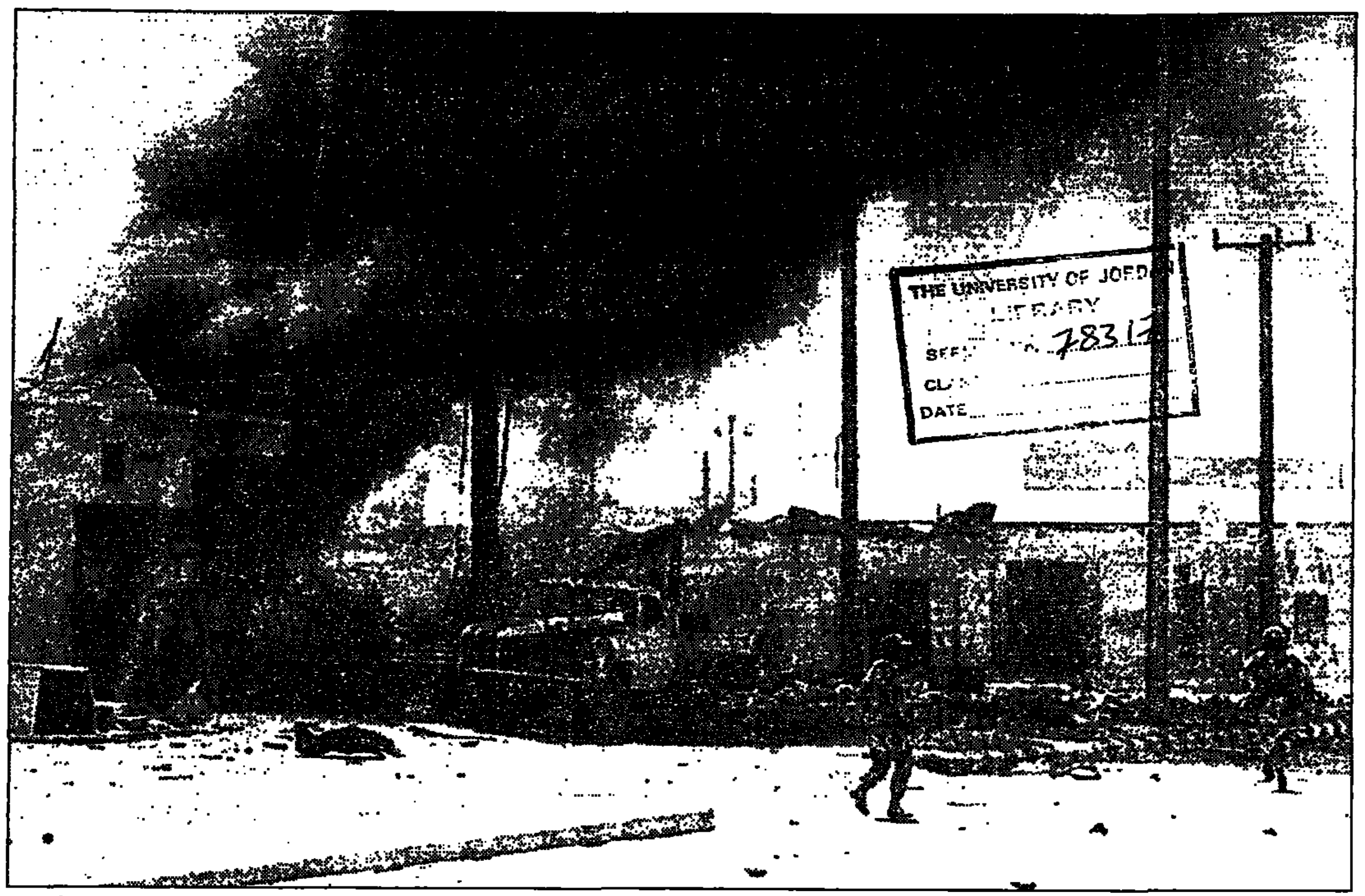

In the firing line: Saudi and American troops patrolling near a vehicle repair shop hit by an Iraqi Scud in Hafr al-Batin, north-eastern Saudi Arabia

THE UNIVERSITY OF JORDAN LIBRARY

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Big freeze nearly over

Temperatures, which have dropped regularly overnight to minus 12C (13F), are expected to rise as high as 10C (50F) in some parts of the country tomorrow. The London Weather Centre said: " The big thaw is on." .... Page 22

Robbers routed

A gang who abducted Viscount Stormont on his way to work and then tried to open the safe of his London home, was foiled by Lady Stormont who chased the robbers with a broomstick.................. Page 3

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Poll tax exemption for Gulf forces is agreed

By Douglas Broom, local government correspondent

THE government is to spend up to £14 million on a scheme to grant the 40,000 members of the British armed forces serving in the Gulf exemption from the poll tax.

Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, will tell the Commons next week that councils must exempt service personnel from the tax from the moment they leave Britain. Local authorities will be compensated in full for poll tax losses.

The decision, endorsed by the cabinet yesterday, follows mounting pressure on the government to act. One soldier was reportedly handed a poll tax demand while he was on a training exercise in full gas protection kit and another was served with a summons at a forward position. Members of the armed forces have continued to receive poll tax bills even though the government asked councils in November to grant immediate exemption to anyone sent to the Gulf. The November circular was only advisory, however.

Rushmoor council, which covers Aldershot in Hampshire, the army's largest garrison, said yesterday that its poll tax bills would go up by an extra £14 a head from April.

A Commons motion calling for poll tax exemption for Gulf forces, tabled by David Blunkett, Labour's local government spokesman, had attracted the support of 113 MPs, including two Conservatives. Mr Blunkett said: "It looks as if the pressure has begun to have an effect."

Kuwaitis 'crucified' by Iraqi troops

By Ray Clancy and Nicholas Watt

KUWAITI resistance leaders responded yesterday to criticism of the allied bombing in Baghdad with tales of torture in Kuwait, where they said 65 civilians had been killed by the Iraqis over four days.

Iraqi troops were said to have crucified Kuwaitis and buried others alive. Soldiers were alleged to have slit 12 victims' throats and then cut off their heads. The dead were then placed in front of their homes and left for 36 hours.

Colonel Abdullah el-Kandari, of the Kuwaiti army, showed a video smuggled out of Kuwait in which a resistance member made the claims. In another case, the Iraqis nailed up a captured resistance fighter by his hands before drilling through his knees and head.

The colonel said Iraqis had executed 200 people in Kuwait since the beginning of the war in retaliation for allied bombing missions. "Two weeks ago, two people were executed just because they were not standing in the queue for taking gas cylinders." The Iraqis were "getting very sensitive now, and after incidents they see along the road they will either take you to jail or execute you".

Resistance fighters had risked their lives to make the video, which was shot just before the start of the war four weeks ago. The blurred film was shot on the move or from a distance. It showed a resistance fighter dropping a petrol bomb from a bridge into an Iraqi army truck, which began swaying.

The 41-minute tape began with a statement by a resistance fighter with his face blacked out. "We will fight until the last drop of our blood. When they take people for interrogation, drunken guards beat those who are being interrogated. There are prostitutes dancing inside the interrogation halls."

From other sources there were claims that more than 250 Kuwaitis were killed on Sunday and their bodies mutilated.

Gloom as unemployment nudges 2 million mark

By Philip Bassett, industrial editor

UNEMPLOYMENT is expected to breach the two million mark next month after government figures yesterday showing that unadjusted unemployment rose by almost 110,000 in January – the highest monthly increase for five years.

John Major, the prime minister, said he regretted the increase, and Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, used the sharp rise to 1.96 million jobless to attack the government's economic policies.

The increase came as the Bank of England said there was "little sign" of a decline in Britain's underlying inflation, implicitly casting doubt on the prime minister's repeated assertions that interest rates would be cut only when underlying inflation was clearly on the way down.

City expectations that seasonally adjusted unemployment – usually seen as the best guide to the jobless trend – would rise by up to 100,000 proved false as, after allowing for the usual rise in January, adjusted unemployment rose by 46,200 to 1,888,500 – the tenth month it has gone up.

The rise in unadjusted unemployment was 109,500, but the effects of Christmas and the new year, plus the winter weather, make the process of adjustment particularly difficult and the underlying trend is still put at rising by about 60,000 a month.

Given the scale of job losses feeding into the official figures over the next few months, headline unemployment will inevitably rise beyond two million. Government officials expect that figure to be breached next month. Unemployment continued to increase most sharply in the South and the West Midlands, with the lowest rises in Northern Ireland and Scotland.

Unemployment is growing as a political issue, and in the Commons Mr Major told Mr Kinnock that "although I regret the rise in unemployment" Labour would have to concede that the British level was well below the European average. Mr Kinnock retorted that, after presiding over two periods of sharply rising unemployment within a decade, the Conservatives would always be known as the "party of unemployment".

Michael Howard, the employment secretary, said that the prospects of those seeking work would only improve if those in jobs moderated their pay settlements. Tony Blair, Labour's employment spokesman, described the figures as grim and said the underlying trend was appalling, with more bad news on the way.

For the unions, John Edmonds, of the GMB general union, said the figures demonstrated that every quarter of 1 per cent fall in inflation was being paid for by 100,000 jobs, while for employers the CBI said that the jobless trend was firmly upwards.

Employment in manufacturing industry is now at its lowest since 1959, and though job vacancies rose by 15,100 in January, officials admitted this was primarily because the government was seeking people through job centres to carry out the 10-yearly census of population on April 21. Average earnings remained high, increasing for the third month running at an underlying rate of 9.75 per cent.

Further economic difficulties were signalled by separate figures from mortgage lenders showing that a record number of homes were repossessed last year and more people fell into mortgage arrears as a result of high interest rates and the slump in property prices. Almost 44,000 homes were repossessed.

Britain in recession, page 5
Tory downfall?, page 14
Output falls, page 23
Comment, page 25

Government warning on burger food poisoning

By Thomson Prentice, medical correspondent

THE government's chief medical officer issued a warning yesterday that beefburgers should be thoroughly cooked, in response to an outbreak of food poisoning among customers of a McDonald's restaurant.

Sir Donald Acheson gave the warning after a meeting on Wednesday with representatives of meat retailers, manufacturers and catering chains selling beefburgers. An investigation by the department's laboratories found that 14 people who ate beefburgers in or near Preston, Lancashire, last month suffered a rare and potentially serious form of food poisoning.

Nine of them had bought burgers at a branch of McDonald's in Preston around lunchtime on January 19. There was a "highly significant association" between the illness and eating beefburgers from the restaurant, the department said.

Another six people with the same distinctive strain of the illness, caused by *Eschericia*

Continued on page 22, col 4

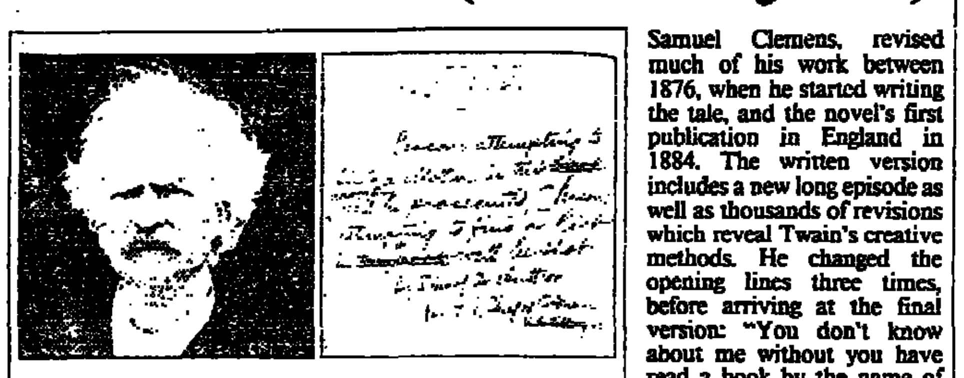
Huck Finn is found in a trunk (ain't no joke)

From Charles Bremner in New York

A HOLLYWOOD librarian has found the long-lost manuscript of the first half of Mark Twain's *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, the novel widely seen as the most important in American literature.

The scholarly world has been staggered by the discovery in an attic trunk of the 665 handwritten pages, which vary extensively from the standard text. "I'm stupefied," said Kenneth Sanderson of the Mark Twain Project at Berkeley. "*Huckleberry Finn* is the nearest thing we have to the Great American Novel in this country. We had all given up on the manuscript long ago. Even the author thought it had been destroyed."

The papers, which disappeared over a century ago, were found by a 62-year-old librarian who had inherited the trunk from her grandfather, James Fraser Gluck, of Buffalo, New York. Gluck was a friend of Twain's and a collector of manuscripts. The second half of the manuscript is held by the Buffalo library. The library yesterday suggested it was the rightful owner, saying Gluck, who died at the age of 45, had taken the papers home and forgot to return them. The trunk's owners said they were sympathetic to reuniting the manuscript with the other half.



Novel find: Mark Twain, and page one of Huckleberry Finn

Sotheby's, which has been trying to determine ownership, called the find the most valuable literary discovery in America.

"The only thing comparable to it I can think of would be an original Shakespeare manuscript," said Paul Needham, head of the book department.

Twain, the pen-name of Samuel Clemens, revised much of his work between 1876, when he started writing the tale, and the novel's first publication in England in 1884. The written version includes a new long episode as well as thousands of revisions which reveal Twain's creative methods. He changed the opening lines three times, before arriving at the final version: "You don't know about me without you have read a book by the name of *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, but that ain't no matter."

On its first American publication, however, Twain's book was greeted with ridicule by the literary establishment.

Saleroom, page 16

SATURDAY

But why can't we go out?

Where to take the children over half term? *The Times* has all the answers in a special full-page guide

WEEKEND LIVING

In Ben Elton's direction

The comedian with a passion for writing talks to Sean French about his venture into theatre directing

SATURDAY REVIEW

Meanwhile on the pitch . . .

England rugby players have been in the headlines over their appearances in advertisements: tomorrow they have some real business against Scotland

SPORT

Just, justified or plain wrong

Clifford Longley explores the varying Gulf war attitudes of Cardinal Hume. Dr George Carey, the Archbishop of Canterbury-designate, and the Pope

A different kind of madness

The problem was psychological disorder. The cure was called deep sleep treatment. The outcome was 24 dead patients. William Hobson explores a bizarre tragedy

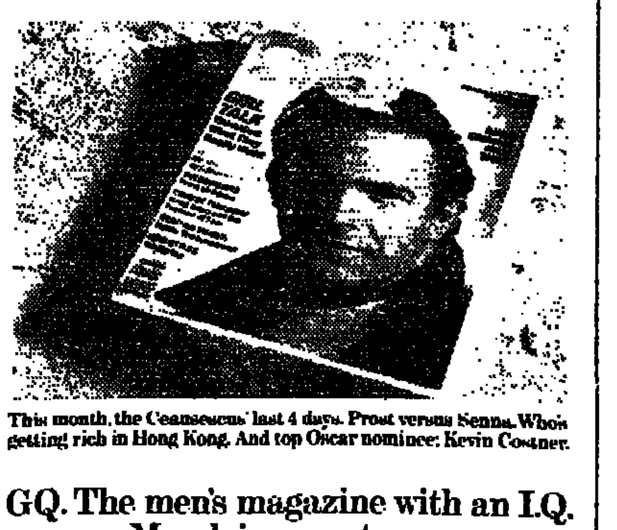
SATURDAY REVIEW

Food (and wine) for thought

Jonathan Meades finds the North-East extremely filling. Robin Young finds something to wash it down with

WEEKEND LIVING

IN 1989,
TWENTY THREE
MILLION
ROMANIANS GOT
THE
SAME CHRISTMAS
PRESENT:
THE DEATH OF
THE
CEAUSESCUS.



This month, the Ceausescus' last 4 days. Prost versus Senna. Who's getting rich in Hong Kong. And top Oscar nominee: Kevin Costner.

GQ. The men's magazine with an I.Q.
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Britain in recession: as debts soar and jobs go, families face a harsh new world

Lenders repossess record 43,890 homes in past year

By CHRISTOPHER WARMAN, PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

A RECORD 43,890 homes were repossessed last year and thousands more people fell into serious arrears.

High interest rates and the property slump hit homebuyers harder than at any time in the last two decades, the Council of Mortgage Lenders disclosed in statistics published yesterday. They showed that 27,330 dwellings were repossessed by mortgage lenders in the second half of 1990, against 16,560 in the first half.

The yearly total of 43,890 was the highest since figures were first gathered in 1979, representing 0.47 per cent of all outstanding loans. The total for 1989 was 15,810, or 0.17 per cent.

Mark Boleat, director general of the council, said yesterday that he expected repossession figures to increase in the first six months of this year, but he suggested that the figures for arrears had probably reached a plateau.

Mr Boleat admitted that in retrospect a few lenders would say thay they might not have adopted strict enough criteria in making loans at the peak of the property boom in 1987 and 1988, but that borrowers did not take enough care.

The council said the number of loans 6-12 months in arrears increased to 123,110 (1.31 per cent) at the end of December 1989, compared with 87,790 at the end of June. The number of arrears of over 12 months rose from 21,580 to 36,100 (0.38 per cent) during the same period.

Mr Boleat said the worst effects were felt in London, the South-East and East Anglia, where the housing market had suffered most severely in the slump. The high level of interest rates, which had remained at 14.5 per cent or more since November 1989, had taken its toll.

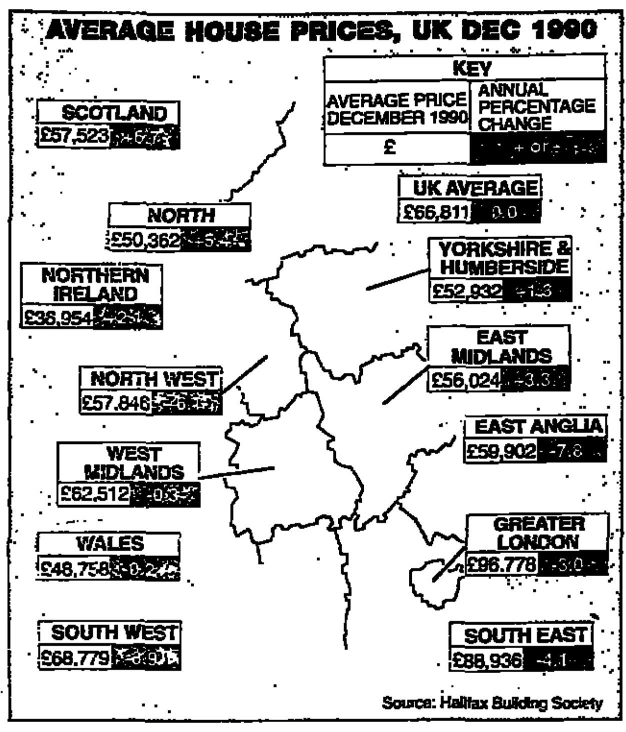
A second factor was that the decline in turnover in the housing market meant that borrowers in difficulties were unable to sell their homes to buy a cheaper one. That was exacerbated by the third factor, the decline in house prices in some regions, the council said. That decline "may be an important factor in the increase in the proportion of possessions that do not involve court proceedings.

"If people believe that house prices are falling and will continue to fall they are more likely to hand in the keys to the lender." The proportion of possessions not involving court proceedings is normally about one third, but in 1990 rose to one half.

The council also blamed the increase in repossessions on the rise in unemployment, the diminishing importance of mortgage interest tax relief, and changes in the social security system. Until 1986, income support was available to cover all the mortgage interest of qualifying families. Since then, income support has covered only half the interest due for the first 16 weeks, with full support available thereafter.

Mr Boleat said building societies, banks and centralised lenders would continue to help people with genuine difficulties in meeting repayments and would do all they could to avoid repossessing homes.

AVERAGE HOUSE PRICES, UK DEC 1990



Source: Halifax Building Society

Eviction threat as dream is ended

By PAUL WILKINSON

Backs to the wall: Mr and Mrs Skyrme outside the house at Middleton-on-Sea, which is facing repossession

ELLEN Skyrme was a classic example of Thatcherite Britain. From a working-class background and brought up in a council house, she was determined to become a home-owning entrepreneur.

By the time she was 25 she was running a south coast building business with 46 staff and looking forward to living in a home valued at a third of a million pounds. Today her business employs just Mrs Skyrme and her husband Ian and is near bankruptcy. The taxman says she and her firm owe £30,000 and she faces losing her house.

Rising interest rates and falling house prices mean that the home they bought for £71,000 three years ago to convert and sell at a profit has left them with an unrepayable mortgage of £225,000. Last week the Mortgage Corporation gave them a month to find a solution or face repossession.

Mrs Skyrme, now 27, said: "We don't know whether to fight them or just hand over the keys. There is no way we can find the money unless a windfall comes our way." Trouble began soon after she took a £63,000 mortgage from Lloyds Bank for a cottage at Middleton-on-Sea, West Sussex. She and her husband began converting it into a four-bedroomed home.

In early 1988, estate agents valued the final product at £335,000 so the bank was happy to agree an unsecured overdraft for improvements. It is now for sale at £250,000, a price set by the depressed market.

The overdraft rose to £80,000 and interest brought monthly repayments to £4,000.

By this time, small building businesses were doing badly and they could only offer the bank £1,000 monthly. By May 1990, missed repayments brought their overdraft to £125,000 and a new mortgage was the only way to reduce outgoings. The Mortgage Corporation then consolidated all their debts into one loan and topped it up to provide working capital. Their total borrowing rose to £225,000. Because they could now pay back at lower mortgage interest rates rather than overdraft rates, monthly repayments dropped to £2,600, but income fell. Mrs Skyrme has not taken a wage since last April and her husband is seeking any work. Last November they were warned of repossession proceedings but until last week the threat of eviction had been staved off. Mrs Skyrme, who explained her plight on a recent *Kilroy* television programme, blamed the government for encouraging people to become home-owners, then lifting interest rates. The government would have to pay "when we have to live off the state".

From a City bank to driving a minicab

By BILL FROST

ANTHONY Barrell hates Sunday nights. He sits at home dreading the prospect of work the next morning. There was a time, however, when he looked forward to the week to come. That was 18 months ago, before he lost his £35,000 a year job as operations manager with a City bank. He now drives a minicab in east London.

Mr Barrell, aged 43, well remembers the morning he was dismissed. "I was discussing salary increases for my 40 staff with management. Then they passed me a draft letter to read. It told me my contract was terminated. I felt as though I had done ten rounds with a heavyweight boxer."

Barrell: "They snuffed something out inside me"

With an £80,000 mortgage on his Hampshire home Mr Barrell needed a job quickly. "It is a dreadful feeling when you are told that you are surplus to requirements. But there is no time for wallowing in it. I found a job with a small go-ahead company."

The job did not work out. Mr Barrell was desperate. As his anxiety mounted he scaled down his aspirations. "I saw an ad placed by a minicab firm in London. I just knew there was no alternative," he said.

He is resentful towards his former employers. "They snuffed something out inside me. I had always beeen loyal and done my best. Those qualities, that spirit I once had, have been damaged badly."

Mr Barrell is still applying for jobs. "Somewhere out there is the right job, and I am going to get it."

For every vacancy a rush of applicants

By TIM JONES
EMPLOYMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE job, for a word processor operator with knowledge of French, had been in the window for only two hours and the staff at the Alfred Marks employment agency in Victoria, central London, thought they were under siege. In that time, more than 30 people applied for the £15,000-a-year job.

They included teachers, an accountant, highly qualified secretaries who had been made redundant, and people with hardly any knowledge of French. Many were willing to take a considerable drop in salary to secure the job.

It was a clear indication of the worsening unemployment affecting London, where, according to Tony Blair, Labour's employment spokesman, 30 claimants are now chasing every vacancy.

In Norwich, where Mr Blair said 26 people were chasing every Jobcentre vacancy, Alfred Marks had to remove a card for three part-time building labourers because so many people, some with degrees, had applied. Another advertisement in Norwich for a part-time receptionist elicited more than 60 applicants on the first day.

As the political battle sharpens, Michael Howard, the employment secretary, has been fighting a rearguard action against the figures put out by Mr Blair and this week's analysis by *The Times*, which showed that unemployment in the year to December increased by 32.4 per cent in Conservative seats.

Mr Howard suggested, for example, the analysis failed to emphasize that in some areas, such as Berkshire, where *The Times* said unemployment had increased by 61.5 per cent, the base had been very low. "The reality is that the unemployment rate in Berkshire is even now only 3 per cent," he said. "In the Crawley travel-to-work area, the rate has increased by 82.7 per cent: in fact, it now stands at 2 per cent."

Ivor Crewe, page 14

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Wife chases gang after robbers kidnap viscount

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Correspondent

LONDON detectives were last night hunting for a gang who abducted Viscount Stormont, son of a former Northern Ireland minister, on his way to work, stole his keys and tried to open the safe at his southwest London home.

The robbers were foiled when Lady Stormont set off an alarm at the house in Tooting. After a struggle she chased them into the street in her nightdress with a broomstick, planning to attack their car. The raid yielded the gang of three or four about £80 to £100 in cash.

Several hours later Lord Stormont, aged 34, was found a few miles away after freeing himself from a van where he had been kept handcuffed. As he was reunited with his wife, a senior detective described the robbery as a well-planned and "horrible" crime which went wrong. The Stormonts' two children, both aged under five, were in the house when the robbers struck.

Later, still wearing the handcuffs which police were trying to cut off his wrists, Lord Stormont said that his wife had been very brave and described his experiences. He said that he was on his way from his terraced home in Drakefield Road, Tooting, to catch a train for work yesterday morning when he was stopped.

"A man walked up to me and said he wanted to talk to me. Before I knew what was happening the rest of them turned up. One of the first things they did was to put my hands behind my back. Hey presto! I was in the back of a Transit van.

"It appears they then invaded my house and then they took me for an involuntary tour of London," said Lord Stormont, a valuer at Christie's.

"They said they were going to my house. My thoughts were, I just hope they don't hurt my children." He would not say whether there were any threats.

About 45 minutes after he was abducted, the robbers arrived at his house. Two men, both with their faces concealed, let themselves in and detectives think a third was waiting outside in a red Fiat Uno. Lord Stormont's two children were with their nanny and Lady Stormont, aged 32, was still asleep.

Police think that Lord Stormont had given the robbers a combination for the small family safe but the combination did not work and the men, possibly armed, went to Lady Stormont.

She said: "I woke up when a man jumped on me. I opened my eyes. One man was above me and the other was by the door and he came to the bed. One had a balaclava on over his face and the other had a scarf over his face."

The men, both in their 20s, showed Lady Stormont her husband's wallet. She said that she did not know where he was and she was in a state of shock. "They had surprise on their side," Lady Stormont said. "They wanted me to get up and open our very small safe which does not have very much in it. I said I would do it and as I was getting out of bed I pressed the panic button. They noticed but I was quicker than they were."

One of the man shouted that the alarm had gone off and one, cursing, gripped Lady Stormont in an armlock. "I told them it was wired up to the police and they would here in a minute. They ran down the stairs out of the front door and I ran after them. I grabbed a duffel coat and a broom. I was going to break the window of the car. They had already gone."

She memorised the registration number of the car as it disappeared and ran back indoors to write it down. Her children and their nanny, in her 20s, knew nothing of what had happened.

Lord Stormont, unaware of what had happened, got out of the van in a street in Streatham, still handcuffed. "I went to doors and found in this part of London in mid-morning no one was in."

Maureen Lowe, a local resident, thought from his appearance that he might be a criminal himself and would not let him into her house. Finally she took him to a neighbour to call the police.

As investigations began Det Superintendent Michael Shorter said that there was no evidence to link the crime to Northern Ireland or terrorism. He said that the gang had known Lord Stormont's routine and details of the house. Both the van and the Fiat car were stolen in south London last month.

Lady Stormont, he said, had shown great presence of mind. The robbers had not bargained for her putting up a fight or alerting the police.

Lord Stormont's father, the eighth Earl of Mansfield and Mansfield, was minister of state at the Northern Ireland Office from 1983 to 1984.

Neighbourhood forests planned for town-dwellers

By John Young

NINE community forests are to be developed on the edges of large population centres, the government announced yesterday. Tony Baldry, a junior environment minister, said he expected the scheme to cost about £70 million over a number of years.

The forest sites are Cleveland, Merseyside, Manchester, South Yorkshire, Nottingham, Bedford, Bristol, Swindon and south Hertfordshire. They will complement three forests designated last year in Staffordshire, Tyne and Wear and an area east of London.

The aim is to create well-wooded areas for recreation, wildlife, housing, industry and education. Each will contain forest, farmland, public open space and leisure facilities, with a ban on developments that would interfere with public access and enjoyment.

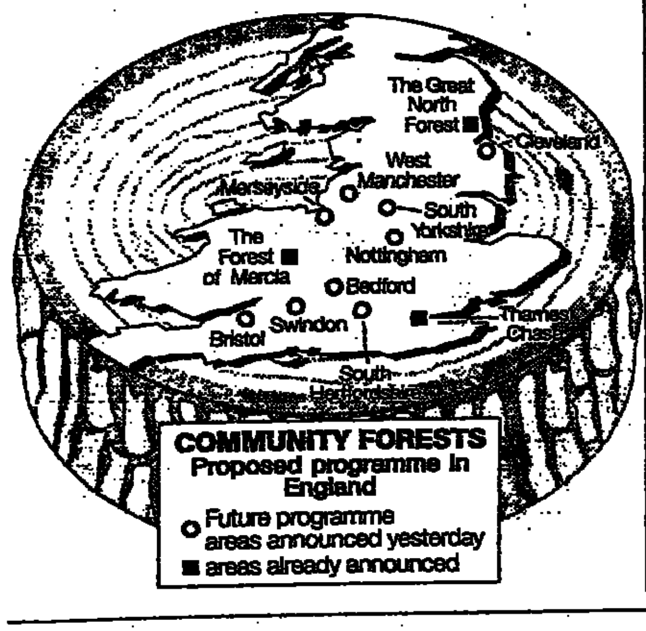
The programme is a joint venture by the Forestry Commission and the Countryside Commission, which has allocated £600,000 to establish "project teams" to consult farmers, landowners and local authorities. Each forest will cover between 40 and 80 square miles, about half of which will eventually be wooded.

Sir Derek Barber, the Countryside Commission chairman, said yesterday that the planned forests were "a bold and imaginative vision, which the whole community can share in and help turn into reality.

"Together with all the local people we will change for the better the landscape close to major urban areas in England, and build a future for our children and our children's children," Sir Derek said.

Mr Baldry said that forests should be seen as more than just a source of timber or a scenic backdrop, but as a positive means of upgrading the landscape and providing important new opportunities for leisure and recreation.

Andrew Christie-Miller, chairman of Timber Growers United Kingdom, which represents private forestry interests, said, however, that without financial incentives the programme would be difficult to put into practice.



ALAN WELLER

After the ordeal: Viscount Stormont, still shackled by handcuffs, with Lady Stormont at Totting Bec police station

A man of career changes

By Michael Horsnell

THE amiable Viscount Stormont, known to his friends as Mungo, is son and heir to the 8th Earl of Mansfield and Mansfield, laird of Scone Palace in Perthshire, where the ancient kings of Scotland were crowned.

The old Etonian fluffed his law exams in 1978 at Magdalene College, Cambridge, describing the subject as "hideously complicated". He found a job working in the wine department at Harrods.

Later, he moved to customer relations with Air France before becoming head of Sotheby's sporting gun department in 1982. A good shot, he was reported as saying at the time that his only regret was having to work on the glorious twelfth.

In 1987 he went to Christie's where he spent a year acquainting himself with all departments before becoming a valuer.

Lord Stormont, aged 34, whose clubs include White's, the Turf and Pratt's, married Sophia Ashbrooke of St John, Jersey, in 1985. They have two children, Isabella, aged three, and William, aged two.

The family were long the owners of Robert Adam's neoclassical Kenwood.

The family crest: "I hope for better things" and "Friendly to virtue alone"

Clarke rejects advice on music

By John O'Leary
Higher Education Correspondent

KENNETH Clarke, the education secretary, yesterday continued his efforts to simplify the national curriculum by rejecting key recommendations from a working group on the teaching of music.

Mr Clarke and David Hunt, the Welsh secretary, have asked for the number of attainment targets, setting out knowledge and skills pupils should acquire, to be reduced.

The group, chaired by Sir John Manduell, principal of the Royal Northern College of Music, produced an interim report going beyond the boundaries of the national curriculum. In spite of an announcement that music and art would be voluntary after the age of 14, the group has recommended that pupils should be allowed to drop only one of the two subjects.

Mr Clarke, in his response, merely repeats his hope that many pupils will continue to study an aesthetic subject, suggesting that music might be combined with dance or drama in a performing arts course for 14 to 16 year-olds.

○ The gap in educational achievement between ethnic groups has widened since the introduction of GCSE examinations. A study of 16,700 GCSE results of inner London pupils reported in today's *Times Educational Supplement* shows Indian and Pakistani pupils, who fared better than their white counterparts at O level, doing even better under the new system.

National Trust has record year

By Michael McCarthy
Environment Correspondent

ARGUMENTS over hunting and accusations of elitism did not prevent last year from being phenomenally successful for the National Trust, its director-general, Angus Stirling, said yesterday.

Membership passed two million, visitors to historic properties and estates exceeded ten million, fund-raising topped £6 million, and legacies were over £19 million — all record figures — Mr Stirling said. The trust's revenue for the year exceeded £70 million.

Membership stands at 2,031,743, and provision is already being made for three million. "By any standards, we have had a phenomenally successful year," he said.

The expansion came in spite of controversy, with a membership vote against deer hunting on trust land and claims from a trust council member, Rodney Legg, chairman of the Open Spaces Society, that the body was elitist. Mr Stirling said the attack was misguided.

Court says seaman must pay poll tax

By Douglas Broom, Local Government Correspondent

A MERCHANT seaman who spends three quarters of the year on board his ship failed yesterday to win exemption from the poll tax.

At the High Court in London, Mr Justice Hutchison ruled that Neil Anderton, aged 31, of Keighley, West Yorkshire, must pay the tax because his ship, the Cunard freighter Atlantic Conveyor, was not his "sole or main residence". The judge overruled an earlier decision by the West Yorkshire Valuation and Community Charge Tribunal, which directed Bradford city council to remove Mr Anderton from the poll tax register.

The National Union of Rail, Maritime and and Transport Workers (MRT), which backed Mr Anderton, said that it would consider taking the case to the House of Lords.

Allowing an appeal by the council, the judge said that a merchant ship "plying the high seas" could not in law constitute a person's residence. Legal authorities had established that Mr Anderton's sole or main residence was his house because that was his home, which he left only when his job compelled him to go to sea.

The tribunal had been wrong in confining its attention almost exclusively to the length of time that Mr Anderton spent at home compared with his time at sea. It should have taken into account that Mr Anderton regarded the house as his home, which is where his family lived and where he had security of tenure.

Guidance issued by the environment department requires local authorities to exempt people who spend more than six months at a time away from home. The court was told that Mr Anderton spent three months at sea and a month at home.

The department said that it was studying the ruling and added: "We have always made it clear that time alone should not be the only factor considered. Community charge registration officers should also look to see where a person has their real home, where they keep their possessions and where they live when they are not working."

Law Report, page 31

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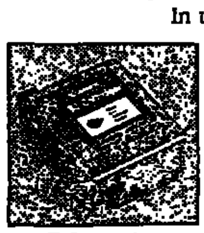

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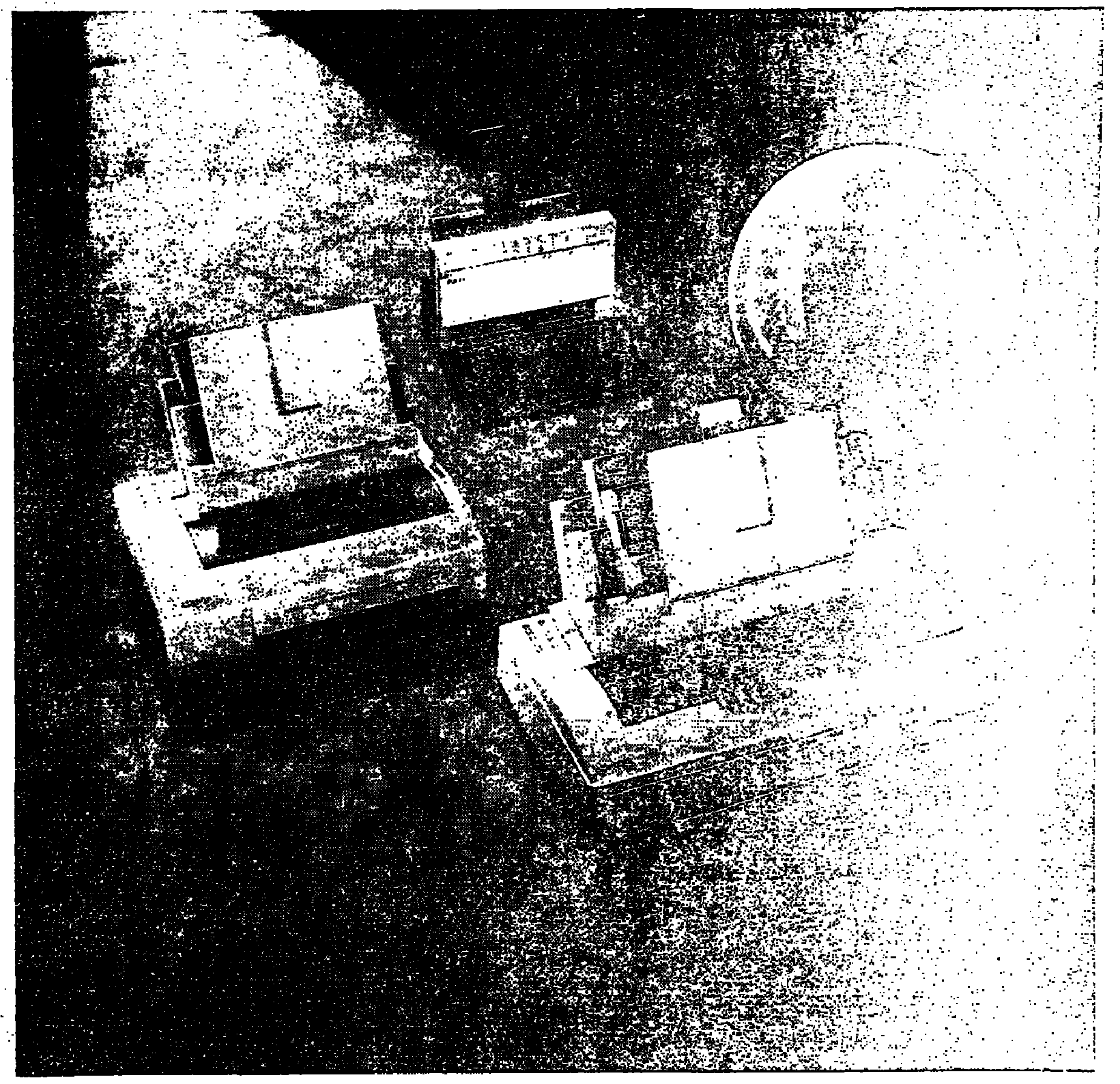

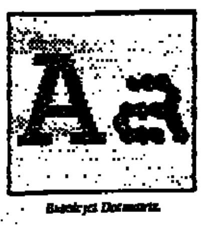

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Britain in recession: as debts soar and jobs go, families face a harsh new world

Lenders repossess record 43,890 homes in past year

By CHRISTOPHER WARMAN, PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

A RECORD 43,890 *homes* were repossessed last year and thousands more people fell into serious arrears.

High interest rates and the property slump hit homebuyers harder than at any time in the last two decades, the Council of Mortgage Lenders disclosed in statistics published yesterday. They showed that 27,330 dwellings were repossessed by mortgage lenders in the second half *of 1990, against* 16,560 in the first half.

The yearly total of 43,890 was the highest since figures were first gathered in 1979, representing 0.47 per cent of all outstanding loans. The total for 1989 was 15,810, or 0.17 per cent.

Mark Boleat, director general of the council, said yesterday that he expected repossession figures to increase in the first six months of this year, *but he suggested* that the figures for arrears had probably reached a plateau.

Mr Boleat admitted that in retrospect a few lenders would *say thay they might not have* adopted strict enough criteria in making loans at the peak of the property boom in 1987 and 1988, but that borrowers did not take enough care.

The council said the number of loans 6-12 months in arrears increased to 123,110 (1.31 per cent) at the end of December 1989, compared with 87,790 at the end of June. The number of arrears of over *12 months rose from 21,580 to 36,100 (0.38 per cent) during* the same period.

Mr Boleat said the worst effects were felt in London, the South-East and East Anglia, where the housing market had suffered most severely in the slump. The high level of interest rates, which had remained at 14.5 per cent or more since November 1989, had taken its toll.

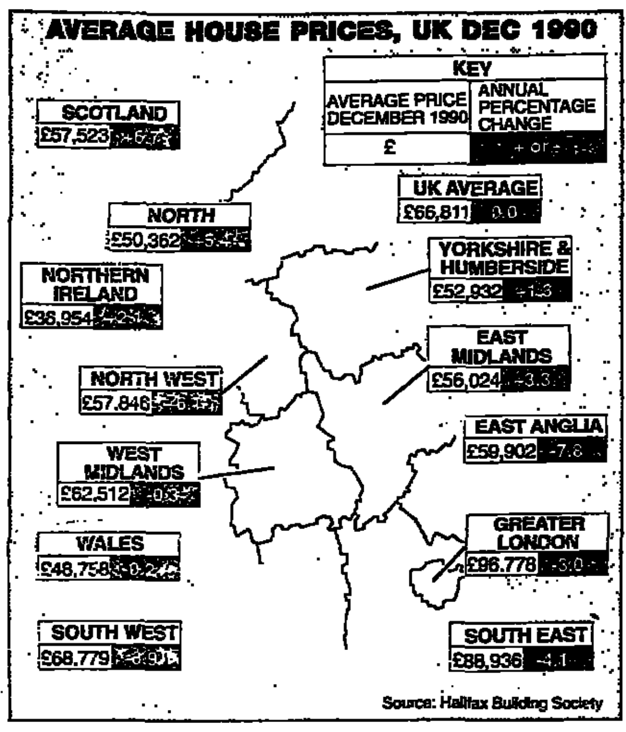
A second factor was that the decline in turnover in the *housing market meant* that borrowers in difficulties were unable to sell their homes to buy a cheaper one. That was exacerbated by the third factor, *the decline in house prices* in some regions, the council said. That decline "may be an important factor in the increase in the proportion of possessions that do not involve court proceedings.

"If people believe that house prices are falling and will continue to fall they are more likely to hand in the keys to the lender." The proportion of possessions not involving court proceedings is normally *about one third, but in 1990* rose to one half.

The council also blamed the increase in repossessions on the rise in unemployment, the diminishing importance of mortgage interest tax relief, and changes in the social security system. Until 1986, income support was available to cover all the mortgage interest of qualifying families. Since then, income support has covered only half the interest due for the first 16 weeks, with full support available thereafter.

Mr Boleat said building societies, banks and centralised lenders would continue to help people with genuine difficulties in meeting repayments and would do all they could to avoid repossessing homes.

AVERAGE HOUSE PRICES, UK DEC 1990



Source: Halifax Building Society

Eviction threat as dream is ended

By PAUL WILKINSON

Backs to the wall: Mr and Mrs Skyrme outside the house at Middleton-on-Sea, which is facing repossession

ELLEN Skyrme was a classic example of Thatcherite Britain. From a working-class background and brought up in a council house, she was determined to become a home-owning entrepreneur.

By the time she was 25 she was running a south coast building business with 46 staff and looking forward to living in a home valued at a third of a million pounds. Today her business employs just Mrs Skyrme and her husband Ian and is near bankruptcy. The taxman says she and her firm owe £30,000 and she faces losing her house.

Rising interest rates and falling house prices mean that the home they bought for £71,000 three years ago to convert and sell at a profit has left them with an unrepayable mortgage of £225,000. Last week the Mortgage Corporation gave them a month to find a solution or face repossession.

Mrs Skyrme, now 27, said: "We don't know whether to fight them or just hand over the keys. There is no way we can find the money unless a windfall comes our way." Trouble began soon after she took a £63,000 mortgage from Lloyds Bank for a cottage at Middleton-on-Sea, West Sussex. She and her husband began converting it into a four-bedroomed home.

In early 1988, estate agents valued the final product at £335,000 so the bank was happy to agree an unsecured overdraft for improvements. It is now for sale at £250,000, a price set by the depressed market.

The overdraft rose to £80,000 and interest brought monthly repayments to £4,000.

By this time, small building businesses were doing badly and they could only offer the bank £1,000 monthly. By May 1990, missed repayments brought their overdraft to £125,000 and a new mortgage was the only way to reduce outgoings. The Mortgage Corporation then consolidated all their debts into one loan and topped it up to provide working capital. Their total borrowing rose to £225,000. Because they could now pay back at lower mortgage interest rates rather than overdraft rates, monthly repayments dropped to £2,600, but income fell. Mrs Skyrme has not taken a wage since last April and her husband is seeking any work. Last November they were warned of repossession proceedings but until last week the threat of eviction had been staved off. Mrs Skyrme, who explained her plight on a recent *Kilroy* television programme, blamed the government for encouraging people to become home-owners, then lifting interest rates. The government would have to pay "when we have to live off the state".

From a City bank to driving a minicab

By BILL FROST

ANTHONY Barrell hates Sunday nights. He sits at home dreading the prospect of work the next morning. There was a time, however, when he *looked forward to the week to* come. That was 18 months ago, before he lost his £35,000 a year job as operations manager with a City bank. He now drives a minicab in east London.

Mr Barrell, aged 43, well remembers the morning he was dismissed. "I was discussing salary increases for my 40 staff with management. Then they passed me a draft letter to read. It told me my contract was *terminated. I felt as* though I had done ten rounds with a heavyweight boxer."

Barrell: "They snuffed something out inside me"

With an £80,000 mortgage on his Hampshire home Mr Barrell needed a job quickly. "It is a dreadful feeling when you are told that you are surplus to requirements. But *there* is no time for wallowing in it. I found a job with a small go-ahead company."

The job did not work out. Mr Barrell was desperate. As his anxiety mounted he scaled down his aspirations. "I saw an ad placed by a minicab firm in London. I just knew there was no alternative," he said.

He is resentful towards his former employers. "They snuffed something out inside me. I had always been loyal and done my best. Those qualities, that spirit I once had, have been damaged badly."

Mr Barrell is still applying for jobs. "Somewhere out there is the right job, and I am going to get it."

For every vacancy a rush of applicants

By TIM JONES
EMPLOYMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE job, for a word processor operator with knowledge of French, had been in the window for only two hours *and the staff at the Alfred* Marks employment agency in Victoria, central London, thought they were under siege. In that time, more than 30 people applied for the £15,000-a-year job.

They included teachers, an accountant, highly qualified secretaries who had been made redundant, and people with hardly any knowledge of French. Many were willing to take a considerable drop in *salary to secure the job.*

It was a clear indication of the worsening unemployment affecting London, where, according to Tony Blair, Labour's employment spokesman, 30 claimants are now chasing every vacancy.

In Norwich, where Mr Blair said 26 people were chasing every Jobcentre vacancy, Alfred Marks had to remove a card for three part-time building labourers because so many *people, some with degrees,* had applied. Another advertisement in Norwich for a part-time receptionist elicited more than 60 applicants on the first day.

As the political battle sharpens, Michael Howard, the employment secretary, has been fighting a rearguard action against the figures put out by Mr Blair and this week's analysis by *The Times*, which showed that unemployment in the year to December increased by 32.4 per cent in Conservative seats.

Mr Howard suggested, for example, the analysis failed to emphasize that in some areas, such as Berkshire, where *The Times* said unemployment had increased by 61.5 per cent, the base had been very low. "The reality is that the unemployment rate in Berkshire is even now only 3 per cent," he said. "In the Crawley travel-to-work area, the rate has increased by 82.7 per cent: in fact, it now stands at 2 per cent."

Ivor Crewe, page 14

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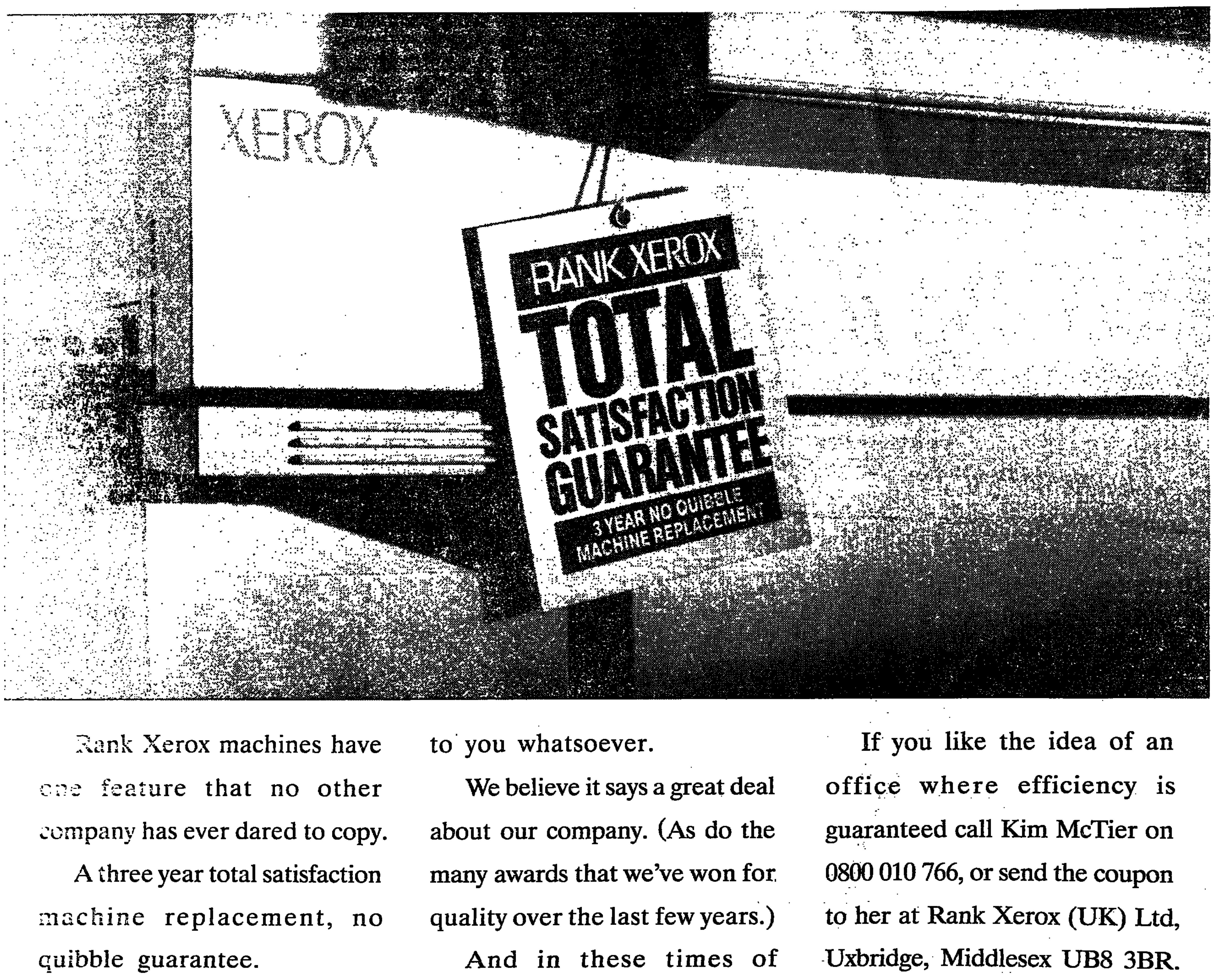

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Police chiefs criticised on crime squad security lapse

By CRAIG SETON

GEOFFREY Dear, former chief constable of the West Midlands, failed to give clear instructions for the headquarters of his serious crime squad to be locked when he disbanded the unit, a report has concluded. It said that senior officers of the force had shown a "lack of professional grip" in not securing evidence kept in the offices.

Roger Birch, chief constable of Sussex, was asked by the West Midlands police authority to investigate why the squad's offices remained open for two days after Mr Dear purged the detective unit over allegations of fabricated evidence 18 months ago. It was later feared that important documents had gone missing from the building.

The police authority ordered the enquiry to find out whether senior officers had neglected their duty after a disagreement with Mr Dear over responsibility for shutting the offices. Mr Birch concluded that no senior officer could be held responsible for failing to comply with an order from Mr Dear.

Mr Dear, now the Inspector of Constabulary for the Midlands, said yesterday that he accepted ultimate responsibility for the failure immediately to secure the squad's Birmingham headquarters in August 1989, but he added: "There remain two diametrically opposed views of the way in which an instruction was given and received."

The police authority's personnel committee was told yesterday that Mr Birch's report had found no evidence to support any disciplinary action. The committee decided that Mr Birch's 380-page report should remain secret.

In a statement, the police authority said that Mr Birch had concluded that the balance of available evidence showed that "no clear or specific instruction" was given by any officer to secure evidence at the squad's headquarters. Mr Birch said that since it could not be proved that a specific instruction was given, neither Paul Leopold, the deputy chief constable, nor Clive Roche and Tom Meffen, both assistant chief constables, could be held responsible.

The report added, however, that even in the absence of any clear or specific direction by Mr Dear, the fact that no action was taken by any officer to implement security arrangements for two days illustrated "a lack of professional grip, both singularly and collectively". It said that insufficient urgency was accorded to the implementation of security measures.

The personnel committee recommended that the police authority take no disciplinary action. It also decided to ask the home secretary to investigate the involvement in the controversy of the Police Complaints Authority (PCA), which issued a statement last August in which it confirmed that Mr Dear had given an instruction to shut the squad's offices.

Dear: accepted ultimate responsibility for lapse

Iran says Rushdie must die

Iran yesterday marked the second anniversary of its death sentence against Salman Rushdie by declaring that the author must die. A statement by clerical groups offered no hope that Tehran would lift the sentence pronounced by Ayatollah Khomeini.

The late ayatollah's ruling "is not a usual *fatwa* that can be changed by another *fatwa*," the Islamic Inter-Denomination Society said in a statement on Tehran radio. "This edict is a particular order and no one can cancel it ... even if Salman Rushdie becomes the most pious person of the age, he cannot be pardoned."

Manager bailed

Terry Yorath, aged 40, the Wales football manager, was given unconditional bail when he appeared before Swansea City magistrates on one charge of being over twice the legal limit when stopped in his car in Swansea in December, and another charge of driving while unfit through drink or drugs on the same occasion.

Prison work

Karyn Smith, aged 19, the Briton jailed for 25 years for heroin trafficking in Thailand, has begun a four-month gem-cutting course at Klong Prem Central prison near Bangkok.

Cookson ill

The novelist Catherine Cookson, aged 84, who suffers from a rare blood disorder, was in a comfortable condition after being admitted to the Freeman hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne, yesterday.

Tube fire

Commuters walked along the track after a fire beside the line halted a Bakerloo line train between Waterloo and Embankment yesterday. Some passengers were treated at the scene for smoke inhalation.

Theatre's policy under threat

By SIMON TAIT, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

SADLER'S Wells theatre, the birthplace of the Royal Ballet and English National Opera, is facing serious problems because of "a maelstrom of funding difficulties for the arts in London".

Stephen Remington, the theatre's director, said yesterday: "Our artistic policy of providing national and international companies for London audiences is under threat. It is always a struggle to break even, and though we hope to have a small surplus this year, unless we get help for next year, some of the international companies from France and the United States we are hoping to present won't come."

London's leading producing house for contemporary lyric theatre work, Sadler's Wells is £500,000 in deficit. A five-year sponsorship agreement for £100,000 a year from Digital ends in June and a new sponsor is being sought.

The present Sadler's Wells theatre wasfounded by Lillian Baylis 60 years ago as a counter-balance to the Old Vic, but now faces becoming a receiving house for outside productions such as the *The King and I*, which opened there this week, if there is inadequate assistance for running costs. Redundancies among the 45 full-time and 45 part-time staff would follow, and rents would increase for such companies as London Contemporary Dance, Opera 80, Birmingham Royal Ballet and D'Oyly Carte Opera, which have seasons there. After nearly two decades of annual visits to the Wells, the Rambert dance company has moved to the Riverside Studios for its London season.

Running costs at Sadler's Wells, which lost the Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet to Birmingham last year because its stage and backstage facilities were inadequate, are £1.4 million a year with turnover at £4 million. This year it is planning to raise seat prices, and from April the Lillian Baylis theatre, the 250-seat studio, is to be rented out.

The theatre is not a revenue client of the Arts Council (and therefore not eligible for a grant from the enhancement fund), but last year the theatre was made a special touring grant of £54,000.

The Arts Council's touring panel is to meet on Tuesday to consider a request for £130,000 from Mr Remington. He has also asked to meet Anthony Everitt, the council's secretary-general, "to establish which grant-aid body is the most appropriate to assist with Sadler's Wells' running costs". Since the abolition of the GLC in 1986, subsidy to the theatre has gone down by more than 50 per cent.

New roof for 'time capsule' mansion

By PETER DAVENPORT

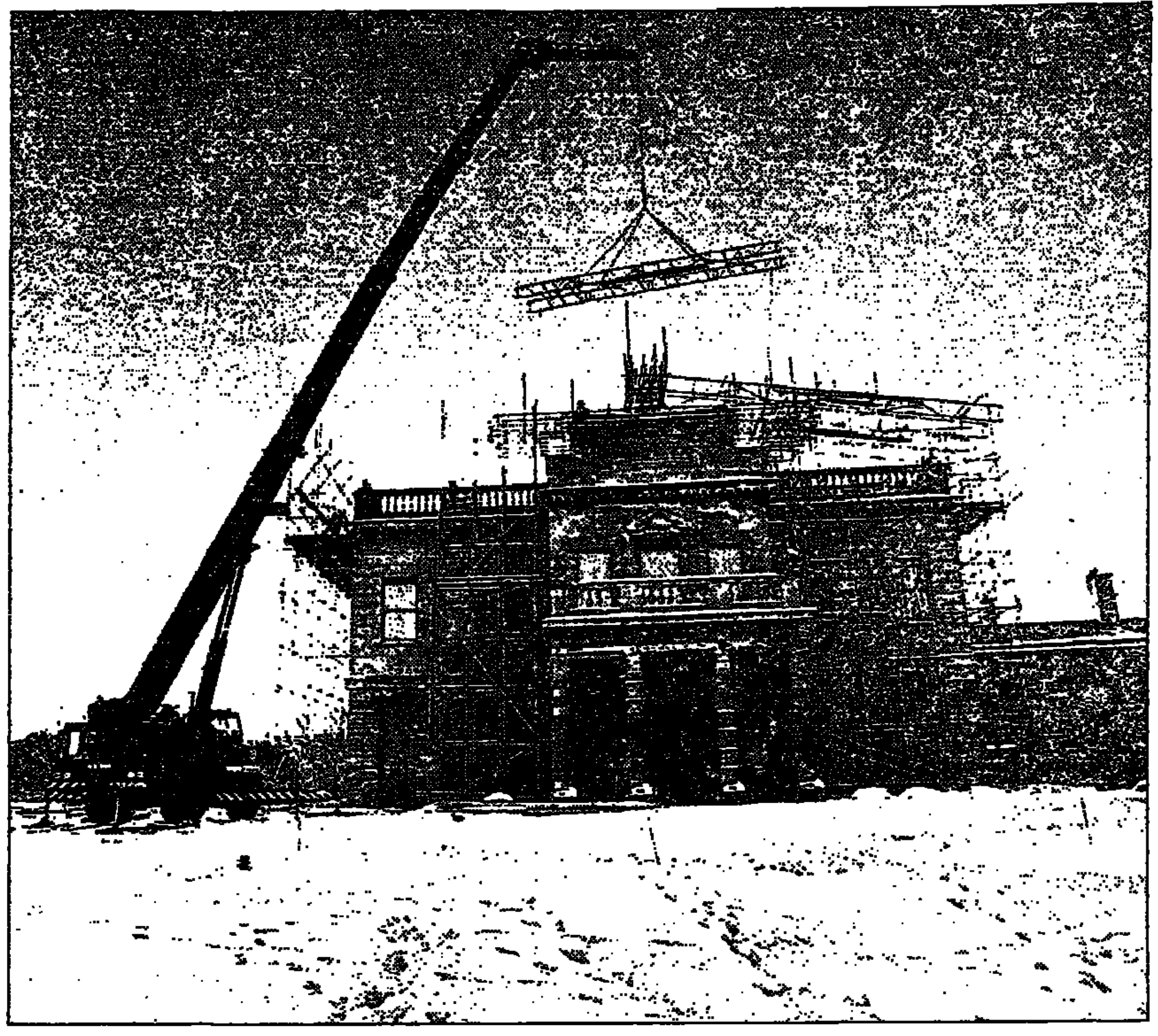
ALMOST a year after English Heritage acquired Brodsworth Hall, the Yorkshire mansion regarded as the best preserved Victorian country house in England, a £3 million conservation programme has reached a critical stage.

The most expensive part of the three-year programme involves stripping off the lead and slate roof and constructing a replacement. Yesterday, a 40-ton crane began lifting huge sections of a temporary roof onto scaffolding supports to protect the interiors while the existing roof is moved.

The house and 17 acres of land were donated to the nation by the former owner, Pamela Williams. The hall, close to the A1 near Doncaster, was built to the design of the Italian architect Chevalier Casentini for the Thaellusson banking family.

What made it remarkable was that it had been permanently lived in since its construction in the 1860s and its interiors, contents and gardens, had remained intact. English Heritage staff have so far catalogued 10,000 artefacts from its unique "time capsule" contents.

ASADOR GUZELIAN



Raising the roof: a crane lowers temporary roof sections into place above Brodsworth Hall so replacement of the existing roof can begin. The hall, one of the best preserved of its period, is undergoing extensive restoration

Victory for expelled Nalgo members

By TIM JONES
EMPLOYMENT CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S biggest white-collar trade union was ordered yesterday to pay a total of £22,680 compensation to nine former members expelled for crossing picket lines during a strike in 1989.

In the first case of its kind under the 1988 Employment Act, which introduced a right not to be unjustifiably disciplined by a trade union, the Employment Appeal Tribunal awarded the nine £2,520 each to compensate for injury to feelings caused by expulsion from the 750,000-strong National and Local Government Officers' Association. Mr Justice Wood, the tribunal president, said that the nine were "witnesses of conscience, courage and integrity".

After the judgment, Alan Jinkinson, the union's general secretary, condemned the award as "dirt money". The union maintained that the nine, all members of the South Tyneside branch, should have accepted the majority decision to strike over pay and conditions.

TGWU contender, page 18

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Concern in Lords on work hours

By SHEILA GUNN
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE law should be changed to prohibit staff from working excessive hours when health and safety is put at risk, a group of peers says today.

The Lords EC committee suggests three-stage legislation covering jobs where tiredness puts the public at risk, such as pilots, doctors, security staff, and bus and train drivers, with set limits to protect workers' health and to improve working conditions.

The cross-party committee also calls for Community-wide research on the effects of long working hours, shift and night work on productivity and accident rates. If the study proved that lack of rest threatened workers' health and safety, then Britain should lead an EC drive to reduce the risks.

The report into working time, to be debated in the Lords, says: "We acknowledge that there has been widespread public concern about excessive working hours in certain sectors in the United Kingdom. The hours which are regularly worked by junior hospital doctors have deservedly attracted attention. The enquiry into the Clapham rail disaster highlighted the long shifts worked by some employees in the transport sector."

The peers received evidence that at least a million people in Britain do regular night work and three million work shifts. An estimated 340,000 British employees worked 60 hours a week or more and 29,000 had a working week of at least 80 hours.America.

House of Lords select committee on European Communities: *Working Time* (Stationery Office: £13.50).

Brooke plans new talks to save Ulster initiative

By RICHARD FORD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

PETER Brooke is to embark on a further round of talks aimed at saving his initiative to break the political deadlock in Northern Ireland from failure.

The Northern Ireland secretary agreed yesterday that the lengthy "talks about talks" process was reaching its concluding stages and he hinted at the difficulties he faces in trying to bridge the gap that still exists between the various parties.

The main Northern Ireland constitutional parties also displayed clear signs that they are preparing their positions in the event of Mr Brooke's initiative being unsuccessful. Mr Brooke is studying an Irish government paper which includes various proposals aimed at overcoming the remaining obstacles to finding a formula that would allow negotiations on an internal administration in the province to start.

The Irish government has accepted that Mr Brooke should act as an arbiter on the timing of Dublin's involvement in a three-tiered set of talks but is pressing for a firm timetable for the start of the second set of negotiations that would be on links between Dublin and Belfast.

His initiative envisages talks between parties in the North on a devolved government for the province and discussions on a North-South relationship and on links between London and Dublin. However, he has been unable to get the agreement of all parties on the timing of the second stage of the process and on the structure of the negotiations.

The republic has tabled a proposal designed to overcome Unionist insistence that they should attend talks with the Dublin government as part of a UK delegation. The formula proposed by Dublin is one that does not feature the words United Kingdom but is designed to meet the Unionist concerns.

A lesser problem that has yet to be resolved is the venue of the talks on links between Belfast and Dublin, although it is understood that Unionists are no longer insisting that they should take place in London.

Mr Brooke told MPs that the proposals from Dublin indicated the continued good will of the Irish Republic. "I believe that they have merit and they will keep us in play, but I do not know whether they offer us the opportunity to reach our goal."

He promised MPs during Northern Ireland questions that he was determined to pursue the present discussions until it was clear that the position of the various parties was incompatible. Admitting that the present part of his effort to break the deadlock was nearing conclusion, Mr Brooke indicated that final success would require considerable effort by all involved. It would need "considerable political will to make sure that we bring it to a satisfactory conclusion", he said.

Brooke: unable to win parties' agreement yet

Democrats go for education tax increases

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Liberal Democrats are to try to become known as the party that is prepared to take tough decisions in the interests of the future in a preliminary general election manifesto to be published next month.

A 5,000-word document, *Shaping Tomorrow, Starting Today*, will be unveiled by Paddy Ashdown in an exercise that will see the party moving away from its traditional association with the centre ground of politics and staking out clear policy stances. The aim, according to senior strategists yesterday, is to leave no doubt in the electorate's mind as to what the party stands for. One said: "They may not like what they see, but at least they will know".

A readiness to increase income tax to boost spending on education if necessary is expected to be one of the policy commitments designed to prove that the Liberal Democrats will not duck questions that the other main parties prefer to ignore.

Lord Holme of Cheltenham, personal adviser to Mr Ashdown and the man in charge of the manifesto-making process, makes plain today that the document will attempt to sharpen the party's policy appeals, but will not be a policy compendium covering every policy nostrum favoured by its members.

In an article in *Liberal Democrat News*, Lord Holme says: "The document is uncompromising in saying that painful decisions need to be taken now if we are to secure a better future for our children and grandchildren, and in this sense it will confirm the honest, realistic and tough-minded approach to politics that has increased public respect for our leader so much over the past year".

Party officials declined yesterday to give details of the document's contents, but the policy proposals are expected to concentrate on what the party calls the "five Es": enterprising economy, educational investment, environmental renewal, European partnership and electoral and constitutional reform.

To achieve those goals, the document calls for European union and reform of the electoral system and the constitution.

Lord Holme says that the whole thrust of the document is unambiguously towards the future and the year 2000. He says: "Voters are well aware that our problems are serious and long term and that the days of short-term gimmicks and quick fixes are over".

The document sets out priorities that the party leadership believes can be afforded in the short term to set the country on the right path.

Lord Holme accepts that a common complaint about the Liberal Democrats is that people do not know what they stand for. It is galling, he says, but consoling that the criticism derives from its greatest asset, that it is *not a class party* standing for one general producer-social-interest against the other.

The manifesto will be debated at the party's spring conference in Nottingham on March 15-17.

More aid for the homeless

The government is to provide £4.5 million in the coming financial year to voluntary organisations helping the homeless. Making the announcement in a Commons written reply, Tim Yeo, an environment minister, said that that was £2 million more than provided this year and it would be divided among 78 organisations, most outside London.

Tour trade

Tony Lloyd, the shadow tourism minister, has called on the government to set up a joint working party with the tourist trade and the unions to consider how to avert the crisis facing the industry.

Parliament next week

The main business in the Commons next week is expected to be:
Monday: Maintence Enforcement bill, second reading.
Tuesday. Debates on Opposition motions on the poll tax and on manufacturing industry.
Wednesday: Criminal Justice bill, report, first day
Thursday: Debate on the Gulf war.
Friday: Private members' bills.

The main business in the House of Lords is expected to be:
Monday: Debate on horse racing.
Tuesday: Planning and Compensation bill, report, first day.
Wednesday: Debates on no-fault compensation for medical injuries and on the performing arts.
Thursday: Planning and Compensation bill, report, *second day*.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Private member's bill: Badgers bill, second reading.

Gummer accuses Howells of supporting EC 'foes'

By PETER MULLIGAN AND JOHN WINDER

THE Liberal Democrats were accused yesterday of giving ammunition to Britain's "foes" in the European Community who support controversial proposals for the reform of the common agricultural policy.

John Gummer, minister of agriculture, made clear his strong distaste for the proposed reforms put forward by Ray MacSharry, the EC agriculture commissioner. "We hate them", he said.

During a debate initiated by the Liberal Democrats, he chided the minority party for calling for aid to be targeted on small and family farms rather than on farms in general.

He said of their agriculture spokesman: "If he goes on trying to suggest that there is this distinction, his words are used by our foes in the EC when we are doing these negotiations."

Mr Gummer said that, by European standards, there were no small farms in Britain. He said that 90 per cent of farms in Portugal had less than five hectares while two million farms in Italy had an average of 14 acres.

"If he wants to transfer the resources from this country to Portugal, to Italy, to Greece, to Ireland, then let him tell the electors of his own constituency", he said.

Geraint Howells, the Liberal Democrat spokesman, said that the minister was right to criticise the present MacSharry proposals but wrong to blame the EC for all the farm industry's ills.

Mr Howells, noting that the future for British farming had not looked so bleak for 50 years, said that the minister had little positive to suggest.

The Labour spokesman, **Elliot Morley**, took issue with with what he saw as Mr Gummer's undue emphasis on larger farms, saying that not all farmers' problems were caused by the CAP.

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Private rent plan approved

By NICHOLAS WOOD
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

PLANS to revive the private rent sector by encouraging housing associations to act as landlords were supported by the prime minister yesterday.

John Major told MPs that it was absurd that the market was declining because of rent control and that thousands of properties were standing empty.

Local authorities had been given incentives to let vacant council houses and the government was working on measures to resurrect the private landlord.

"We are continuing to examing further ways of stimulating the private sector", Mr Major said. It was disclosed by Whitehall sources later that the prime minister was referring to moves by Sir George Young, the housing minister, to bring 600,000 empty properties back into use by encouraging housing associations to manage lettings for private owners.

Sir George: "Plenty of room for new players"

Last month, Sir George said: "With the involvement of housing associations we will be able to bridge the gulf of mistrust between private landlords and tenants, which is now possibly the main obstacle to the revival of private renting.

The minister added that people needed to be persuaded that they could let their property safely and that for them a tenancy managed by a housing association was the best solution. He said: "The time has come for housing associations to consider adding to their portfolio of skills in housing provision by entering the field of residential property management. There is plenty of room for new players."

Public spending reports

Stricter legal aid controls

By FRANCES GIBB
LEGAL AFFAIRS
CORRESPONDENT

STRICT controls on legal aid spending measures are being discussed between the Lord Chancellor's officials and the Legal Aid Board in an effort to reduce the rising legal aid bill, predicted to reach about £800 million gross this year.

Details published yesterday in the government's spending plans confirm that spending for 1990-1 by the Lord Chancellor's department will outstrip original estimates by about £97 million, 72 per cent of which goes on legal aid.

The net costs of the department for 1990-1 are estimated at £102 million and the predictions are that that total will rise to a net £142 million in 1991-2, to £186 million in 1992-3 and finally to more than double the present level at £211 million in 1993-4.

By contrast, the net costs of the Crown Prosecution Service are predicted to be fairly stable. They are estimated at £128 million for 1990-1, expected to rise to £150 million for 1991-2 and after that to stay fairly constant, at £155 million for 1992-3 and £158 million for 1993-4.

The report outlines the action being taken to curb costs. "Greater emphasis will be placed in discussion with the professional bodies upon the need for legal aid to secure value for money", it says.

Officials want to bring a system of standard or fixed fees into the magistrates' courts. That would mean a set fee according to the case.

In the crown court, officials are considering setting up local teams to deal with taxation (the formal scrutiny of a lawyer's legal aid bill), and target high-cost work.

The Government's Expenditure Plans 1991-2 to 1993-4 (Command 1510, Stationery Office; £5.70).

Government Scottish work gets 11% extra

By KERRY GILL

SPENDING on government programmes in Scotland during the next financial year will amount to £11 billion, an increase of 11 per cent over this year, according to Ian Lang, the Scottish secretary, who published his report, *Serving Scotland's Needs*, yesterday.

In 1991-2 the overall rise in spending on the health service since 1979-80 will be almost 40 per cent in real terms. "After allowing for the recent announcement of supplementary funding for doctors' and nurses' pay, gross expenditure on the health service in 1991-2 is planned to be £309 million greater than in 1990-1, and to rise by a further £270 million over the following two years", Mr Lang said. The extra money will fund initiatives including a national heart and lung transplant facility, a national service for the rehabilitation of brain injury patients and the creation of the new health education board in Scotland.

On April 1, Scottish Enterprise and Highlands and Islands Enterprise will be launched with a network of firms aimed at enhancing the role of private enterprise and encouraging the introduction of modern technology.

The government's education provision in the next financial year will be £540 million, about a fifth more than in 1990-1. Most of the extra money will go towards running the grant-aided colleges and to student support.

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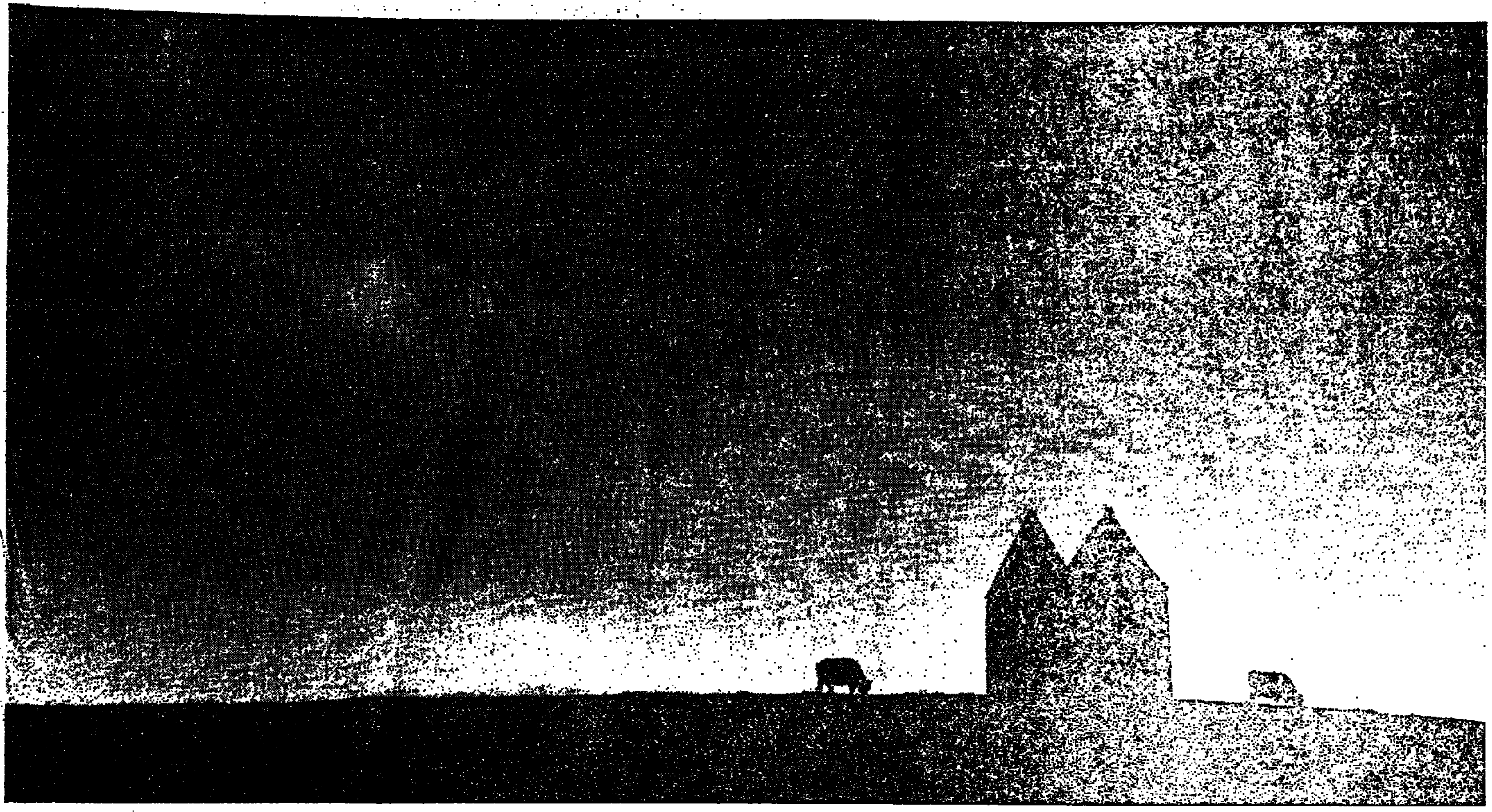

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UNITED NATIONS

Pérez de Cuéllar rules out ceasefire before withdrawal

From JAMES BONE
IN NEW YORK
AND MARY DEJEVSKY
IN MOSCOW

AS THE United Nations Security Council began its private meeting on the Gulf War, the UN secretary-general said he saw no prospect of a ceasefire unless Iraq promises to withdraw from Kuwait.

Cuba and Yemen, which sought the formal debate, have hinted that they want a resolution calling for a pause in hostilities, but have launched no formal initiative. Britain and America would veto such a proposal.

Thomas Pickering, the American ambassador, told the council on Wednesday: "We have no intention of offering Saddam Hussein breathing space in which to regroup. Nor does he have any need of a pause in the fighting to make the decision which he needs to make." Two of the other three veto powers, France and the Soviet Union, have said they see no need for a halt in hostilities until Iraq promises to withdraw.

Asked about a possible ceasefire, Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the secretary-general, said: "I don't think that a ceasefire at this stage without a firm commitment to withdrawal would be acceptable to the countries working together with Kuwait in order to implement the council resolutions."

Pickering: no breathing space for Saddam

One Western diplomat suggested that when Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi foreign minister, visits Moscow on Sunday, the Soviet Union might obtain a more vague commitment from Iraq on withdrawal than might satisfy the Americans. That would leave the security council in a quandary about whether to call a halt to hostilities on the basis of an Iraqi commitment to pull out of Kuwait. The Soviet Union is expected to inform the council about the outcome of the Mr Aziz's trip.

The unusual closed formal meeting of the security council began yesterday with members discussing whether speakers should be questioned or simply deliver prepared statements. In London, diplomats more usually advocating the open conduct of public affairs were much relieved that the 9-2 vote in favour of a closed meeting had saved the alliance from the embarrassment of public castigation. Unease remained on the possible voting pattern of any more substantive resolution.

Since the landmark series of resolutions culminating in Resolution 678 authorising member states to use military means to force Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait, five seats on the security council have rotated. Canada, Colombia, Finland, Malaysia and Ethiopia – all of which voted in favour of the resolutions calling for Iraq's withdrawal – have been replaced by Austria, Belgium, Ecuador, India and Zimbabwe.

The allies have been encouraged by Moscow's noticeably restrained response to Wednesday's bombing of a Baghdad air raid shelter. The Kremlin yesterday embarked on another round of intensive diplomatic activity to advance an end to the war.

Sheikh Sabah al-Sabah, the Kuwaiti foreign minister, ended a daylong visit to Moscow, stating his satisfaction with the Soviet position, and it was announced that Ali Akbar Velyati, the Iranian foreign minister, would visit the Soviet capital today for a short working visit.

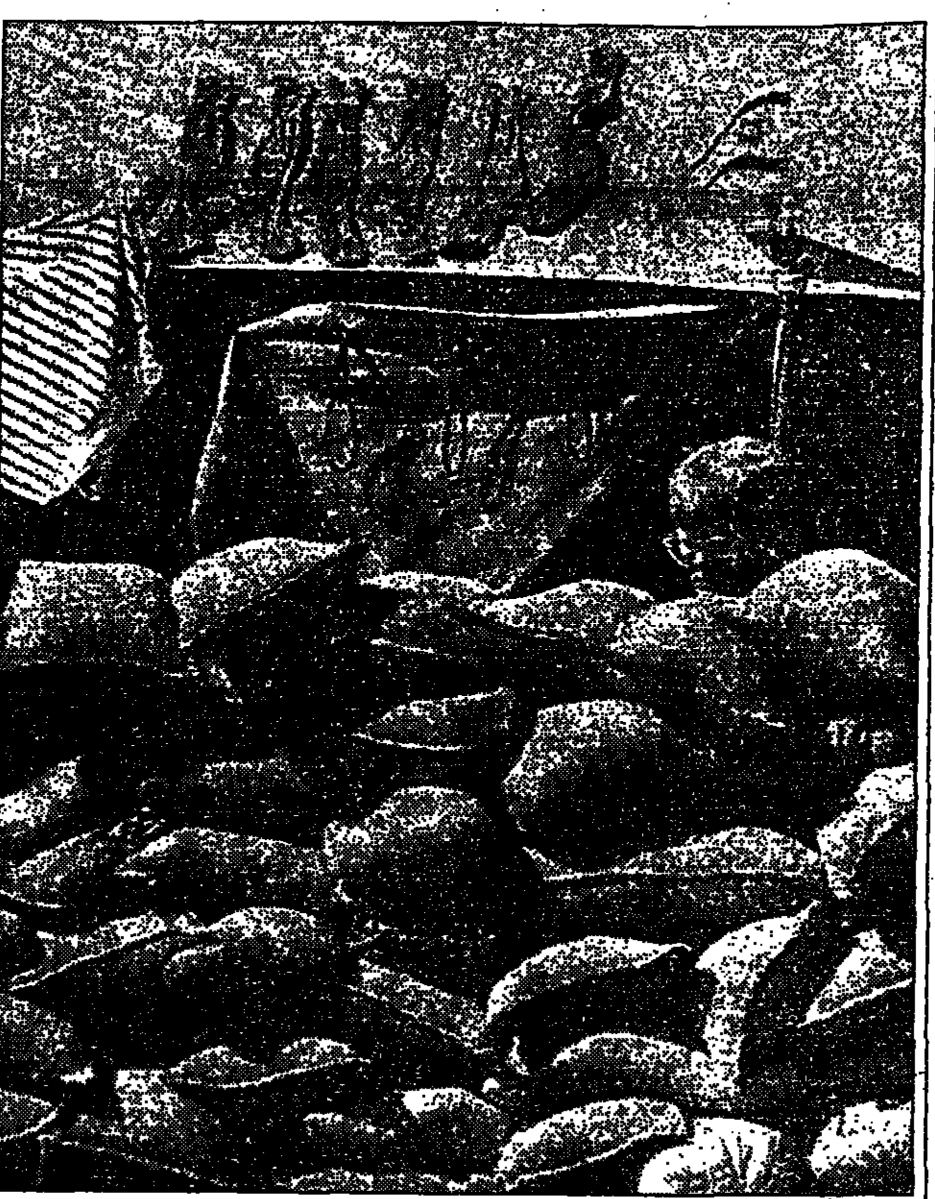
Yevgeni Primakov, the president's special envoy, returned from Baghdad, via Tehran, late on Wednesday, reporting "some rays of light" in the position of the Iraqi leadership. The Kuwaiti foreign minister yesterday told reporters that he had been given to understand that Baghdad had shown a "degree of flexibility", though he did not give details.

Sheikh Sabah said he had received a detailed report on Mr Primakov's visit. He emphasised, however, that Kuwait had no intention of making any concessions, territorial or otherwise. "We will not give up one fraction of our land," he said, and stipulated that no ceasefire should take effect until Iraq had begun to withdraw from Kuwait. Soviet officials have suggested that a statement of intent on Baghdad's part might be sufficient to bring about a ceasefire.

Responding to the allied strike on the Baghdad air raid shelter on Wednesday, Sheikh Sabah said: "Kuwait has been occupied since August 2, its people killed and tortured. You must remember that."

Later Vitali Churkin, the Soviet foreign ministry spokesman, read a statement, saying the bombing only served to justify Soviet concern and illustrated "the need for urgent diplomatic and political efforts to halt the bloodshed and restore peace on the basis of the UN security council resolutions".

Leading article, page 15



Laundry day: an American woman soldier uses the sandbags of a joint Israeli-American Patriot anti-missile base in Israel as a screen while doing washing. Her army-issue socks and towel are drying in the early spring sun on her tent roof. Israel's prime minister, Yitzhak Shamir, said in an interview, *published* in Paris yesterday, that his country should take charge of defending itself against attacks by Iraqi Scud missiles, but it would act only in co-ordination with the United States (AP reports). "Israel does not want to be defended by others," Mr Shamir told the weekly news magazine *L'Express*. "It is a painful situation. It has to change. We have to do our share. Because it is up to us to defend our country."

Israelis will keep Golan Heights

Jerusalem – Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli prime minister, responding to speculation about peace talks with Syria, vowed yesterday never to relinquish the Golan Heights, which Israel captured from Syria in the 1967 six day war (Richard Owen writes).

Mr Shamir dampened hopes that America might engineer a peace treaty between Israel and Syria after the Gulf war when he declared that Israeli policy had not changed and that Israel could not agree to the demilitarisation of the Golan Heights.

Diplomats said Israeli-Syrian negotiations could still be one of the first fruits of the war, and that Israel and Syria were staking out negotiating positions. The Golan Heights dominate the Galilee area and are considered of vital strategic importance by Israel. In 1982 the area was "brought under Israeli law", regarded as equivalent to annexation.

In the wake of the visit to Damascus by Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the German foreign minister, Mr Shamir sent a message to the Committee of Golan Heights Settlements yesterday assuring it that Israel had not agreed, and would not agree, to demilitarisation as part of a peace framework.

Sailor killed

Dubai – An Italian sailor was stabbed to death on a Dubai street on Wednesday, raising fears of terrorism in the Gulf port. Within hours, the Italian ambassador announced that he did not believe the killing was directly linked to Italy's role in the multinational force. Police believe it could be a case of street theft.

German pledge

Amman – Germany has tried to reassure Jordan that it will have a pivotal role in postwar Middle East security arrangements. After visiting Egypt, Syria and Jordan, the foreign minister, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, said: "Jordan will have an important role in the post-Gulf arena for stability in the region."

Terrorist note

Bonn – Red Army Faction terrorists who attacked the American embassy with automatic weapons left a note accusing the US-led military coalition in the Gulf of waging a "war of annihilation against the Iraqi people". The US ambassador to Germany, Vernon Walters, said the attack would not intimidate staff.

UN aid for Iraq

Geneva – A United Nations convoy with £300,000 worth of medical supplies is to drive to Baghdad from Iran tomorrow. The World Health Organisation said arrangements were being made "to ensure to the fullest extent possible" the safety of the seven men in the convoy, who are expected to stay in Iraq for a week.

Cairo meeting

Cairo – Foreign ministers from Syria, Bahrain, Egypt, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates gathered here for talks today on a postwar security apparatus for the Middle East. They are all strong supporters of international efforts to drive Iraqi forces from Kuwait. *(AFP)*

Peace Valentine

Tokyo – Japanese peace campaigners from a group called Peace Boat, some dressed as Cupid and some as angels, delivered Valentine's day love letters and huge chocolate hearts to the American and Iraqi embassies yesterday inscribed with the words: "If you stop the war, I'll love you." *(Reuter)*

BRITAIN

Labour divisions over war deepen

By PHILIP WEBSTER
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR party strains over the Gulf war intensified yesterday as front-benchers called publicly for bombing raids deep into Iraq to be reconsidered and for the leadership to review its stance.

The continued front-bench status of two spokesmen was in doubt last night as latent tensions were brought to the surface by the deaths of civilians in the American bombing on Wednesday.

Claims by Joan Ruddock, a junior transport spokesman, and Clare Short, a social security spokesman, that the raids went beyond United Nations policy and widened the war aims were flatly contradicted by Labour leadership sources.

Mrs Ruddock, former chairman of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, was seeing Neil Kinnock last night. While there were no suggestions that the spokesmen would be dismissed, their decision to speak out on a subject outside their brief caused intense irritation among colleagues trying hard to hold the party together on the war. There was speculation that they might resign to give themselves freedom to speak out.

Concern about the bombing raids was voiced by a member of the shadow cabinet, Robin Cook, shadow health secretary. His remarks on BBC Radio 4's *Today* programme reflected the private concern of several colleagues, although he emphasised his support for the leadership line. He said there should be a *serious* review of the way in which the bombing was hitting targets "which are at best ambiguous as to whether they are military or civilian".

WAR IN THE GULF: DAY 29

ALLIED FORCES

SORTIES: The allies have flown 70,000 air missions.

CLAIMS: The US said the allies had destroyed 1,300 Iraqi tanks, 800 armoured vehicles and 1,100 artillery pieces. Five Iraqi soldiers surrendered to Saudi forces in the northern border area. John Major said of Wednesday's bombing of the air raid shelter in Baghdad: "The United States have described why they attacked this particular site and they did so on the basis of an assessment that it was a legitimate military target."

LOSSES: An American EF111 Raven electronic jamming and radar-detection plane was shot down, with the death of its pilot and navigator, and a British Tornado was lost. Allies list 35 of their troops killed in action, including 14 Americans and 18 Saudis. Twenty-two Americans listed as non-combat deaths; 46 allied servicemen missing in action, including 28 Americans, eight British, one Italian, nine Saudis; 12 PoWs, two British. Allies lost 30 planes, 23 in combat – 16 US, five British, one Kuwaiti and one Italian.

IRAQI FORCES

CLAIMS: Iraq said that at least 94 people were killed and many injured in the bombing of the air raid shelter. The allied air attacks have killed 7,000 civilians and injured thousands, Baghdad's ambassador to Tokyo said. Baghdad radio warned the allies of "devastating surprises".

SCUD ATTACKS: Iraq fired two missiles at the north-eastern Saudi town of Hafr al-Baten. Four people were slightly injured.

ALLIED WAR AIMS

UN Security Council resolution 678 authorises Kuwait's allies to "use all necessary means" to uphold previous resolutions calling for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait and its government's restoration. It also calls on the nations "to restore international peace and security in the area".

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هكذا من الاعلى

Misgivings mount among Saudis as air war takes ugly turn

The bombing of Baghdad civilians and Washington's reaction has added to Saudis' disquiet about American war conduct, **Christopher Walker** reports

GROWING unease about the American conduct of the Gulf war inside Saudi Arabia has been raised to unprecedented levels by the bombing of the Baghdad bunker and Washington's subsequent handling of the disaster.

In a series of interviews with Saudi intellectuals, only a social worker with personal knowledge of Iraqi atrocities inside Kuwait supported the continuation of the war — each day of which many Saudis now see as a victory of sorts for President Saddam Hussein because of the length of time Iraq has withstood the allied onslaught.

The disquiet inside the desert kingdom follows earlier discontent among prominent Saudi clerics and educators in the form of illegal cassettes, one of which said: "The crusader bandits have come to steal our oil."

"We have had Saudis on the telephone all morning complaining and expressing their deep unhappiness at the tragedy in Baghdad," said the editor of a leading Saudi newspaper. "One educated woman was in tears as she asked why we were killing civilians. She said she had backed the war when it was geared to liberate Kuwait, but was now against it as it seemed bent on destroying another Arab country."

The editor claimed that resentment in the Arab world at the bunker attack would be reflected in terrorist attacks against allied targets, possibly including those in Saudi Arabia. "The liberals in Saudi Arabia are angry and the religious conservatives are even more angry because they see the incident as the slaughter of fellow Muslims by people they would regard as infidels," he said.

"What has upset people is the way in which the war seems to have changed into a struggle to destroy Iraq," he said. "People were fooled by all those gung-ho generals saying that it would all be over in 72 hours and now they want to stop it. They think that Bush only seems to care about American lives and does not worry about Iraqi casualties."

A Saudi female radio announcer and mother of five was more outspoken in a telephone interview from Jeddah where many Saudi families from Riyadh and the Eastern province have fled because it is out of range of Iraqi Scuds.

"Everyone is now talking about the war and the appalling thing which happened in Baghdad. For the Americans, it does not seem to be a problem if anyone else dies, especially Arabs," she said. "They treat us like insects. With Western lives it is different: if one Western is just taken hostage, not even killed, the whole world is turmoil.

"I feel that we in Saudi Arabia are standing by helplessly and letting things happen that should not happen. This war should stop now: it has become very, very ugly. I do not know a single person in Jeddah, or elsewhere in the country, who does not think like this, but it is so frustrating — we cannot do anything."

Like many Saudis, the announcer said that at the outset of war four weeks ago she had assumed it would be over quickly and had not opposed it. "Now it is different. There must be another way to solve the problem of Kuwait," she explained. "Few people are with Saddam, but they are unhappy to see that the US has come down to his level and started to behave as he does." Many Saudis are sceptical of the American explanations of why the bunker was attacked and about Washington's claims that the attackers had no idea there were civilians inside.

Long used to strict censorship of their own, the Saudis have been made aware in their papers and on television (Cable News Network is broadcast here for the first time, although delayed for censorship) that Western news is also censored.

A professor of English at the Abdul Aziz university in Jeddah said that students and teachers had been expressing disquiet at the conduct of the war before the Baghdad attack. "There were doubts before, but now they are killing Muslim civilans these are much greater," she said. "The Americans just do not seem to care how many Arabs die."

She pleaded for the war to be halted before it developed into a land battle with big casualties. "At least there must now be an immediate pause to find a diplomatic way out," she demanded. "This cannot go on."

A Saudi journalist on the weekly magazine, *Asharq al-Aswat*, who had spent time in the desert with US troops voiced the growing anti-American sentiment familiar in Arab countries such as Jordan and Yemen. More and more Saudis are now turning to Radio Baghdad and the state radio of Yemen for information about the war to counter what they see as the one-sided accounts in their media.

"What people here resent is the impression given on television by Americans like Richard Cheney, the defence secretary, that white blood is more valuable than black blood," the journalist said. "The war was started to liberate Kuwait and that was okay. Now it is aimed at destroying Iraq and people here just do not approve of that."

Support for the allied stand came from Najila Nasser el-Anbar, a Saudi social worker who has been looking after Kuwaiti exiles since the invasion on August 2. "What is happening in Kuwait to everyone, even to women and children now is terrible. They are being tortured and killed," she said. "It must be stopped. Our government has all my backing for what it is doing. Kuwait must be liberated as soon as possible."

Her remarks reflected the views of the overwhelming majority here before the war was launched. But that view is now being challenged.

(This report is subject to allied military reporting restrictions)

AIR STRATEGY

Danger to civilians keeps strategic sites off allied target list

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

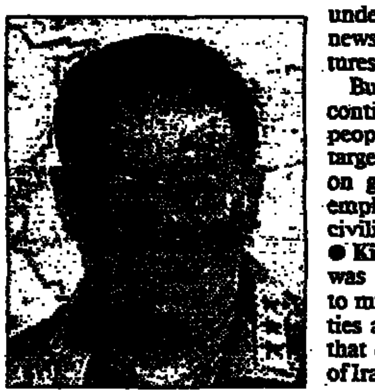
'HE coalition leaders lined against President Saddam ein have laid down a ber of guiding principles heart of their campaign. se rules, which fix neters and objectives for particular operations, are: bombing targets have to be strategic and military; civilian casualties must be kept to a minimum; the war must be seen to be against the Iraqi leadership, not against the Iraqi people; and Kuwait must be liberated only when allied casualties can be kept to an "acceptable" level.

The rules of engagement supplied by the British government to the three armed services in the Gulf are flexible enough not to restrain the military unduly. But every aircrew in an allied bomber is aware that, unless it can hit the designated target, it should return to base with a full bombload. This has happened regularly, owing to bad weather or excessively heavy anti-aircraft fire.

The target list, drawn up by Lieutenant-General Charles "Chuck" Horner, the United States Air Force chief in the Gulf, has some obvious omissions to avoid civilian casualties. For example, although "dual purpose" constructions such as bridges, roads and oil refineries are included, dams have been excluded. The Mosul dam, renamed Saddam Hussein dam, has a big reservoir stretching about eight miles. According to British consultants quoted in the magazine *New Civil Engineer* last month, low-lying Baghdad and most of southern Iraq would be swept away if allied bombers breached the dam.

The town of Mosul *has* been bombed because there is a large air base there, but the dam has been left untouched. While the world focuses on the death of Iraqi women and children on Wednesday inside the "air raid shelter" in Baghdad, the exclusion of dams from the bombing list underlines the allies' dilemma. Military operations which could shorten the war have been ruled out because of the effect they might have on civilians.

The allies' political and emotional agonising over Wednesday's loss of civilian lives in Baghdad will comfort Saddam. He can be confident that allied aircraft will not bomb targets in Kuwait City, for fear of killing Kuwaiti citizens. The city is "target-rich", but well-defended. Saddam has filled the streets with tanks, armoured personnel carriers and artillery, and there are anti-aircraft guns on every high building. Blocks of flats have been taken over as command and control headquarters, doubtless with some residents remaining to ward off allied bombers.



Horner: responsible for drawing up target list

Following Wednesday's civilian death toll, there have been appeals to stop the bombing "for humanitarian reasons". This shows, more clearly than ever before, that members of the public, except for those who have relatives serving in the Gulf, see the war from an emotional and geographical distance. The left-wing Labour MPs who tabled a motion on Wednesday condemning "the barbaric slaughter of innocent men, women and children" might not have been so eager to criticise had Britain also been under air bombardment and newspapers filled with pictures of British civilian deaths.

But the allies will have to continue to prove to the Iraqi people and the world that their targeting policy is still based on guiding principles which emphasise the need to limit civilian casualties.

● **King's response:** Britain was "absolutely committed" to minimising civilian casualties and deeply regretted any that occurred in the bombing of Iraq, Tom King, the defence secretary, said yesterday (Michael Binyon writes).

He voiced strong suspicions that Saddam was deliberately concealing bunkers in civilian areas and positioning aircraft in the middle of housing estates. However, he said, there was no change in the allied policy. Saddam was responsible for "every casualty in this war".

JULIAN HERBERT

Cursing America: women demonstrators screaming insults against the United States outside the American embassy in Amman yesterday. Among the hundreds of black-clad women gathered in the Jordanian capital were many Iraqis (Reuter reports). They threw stones, mud and shoes at the building and smashed windows at the nearby Egyptian embassy in protest against the allied bombing of the Baghdad air raid shelter in which many civilians died. Protesters also broke windows at a United Nations building. "Saddam Hussein, use your chemicals," the crowd chanted. About 600 people kept up the protest throughout the day between the American and the Egyptian embassies. Some carried "wanted" posters of President Bush, accusing him of "executing Iraqi children", whose death would bring the reward of an empty barrel of oil. It was the first time that the Jordanian riot police had allowed demonstrators near the diplomatic missions. Protest marches were also reported from other areas of the country

AMERICAN REACTION

Public resolves to close ranks behind president

From Charles Bremner in New York

AMERICA'S anti-war minority seized on the Baghdad bunker bombing as proof of the folly of "George Bush's war", as they call it, but the grim video footage appears to have stiffened the resolve of ordinary and opinion-leading Americans to prosecute the campaign.

Peace activists issued calls for a halt to the war yesterday and comparisons with the American overkill of the Vietnam era were rife from churchmen and other war opponents. But spot polls and interviews around the country showed the public to be shocked but rallying strongly behind the president.

"We did not target that bunker knowing civilians were going to be there," said a Texas oil refinery worker, voicing a consensus heard across the country. "These things happen in war." In Atlanta, Pedro Garcia, a psychiatrist, said his patients were solidly behind the war. "People in general are very much convinced of the justice of the war and they have the impression that these people are doing their best to avoid civilian casualties."

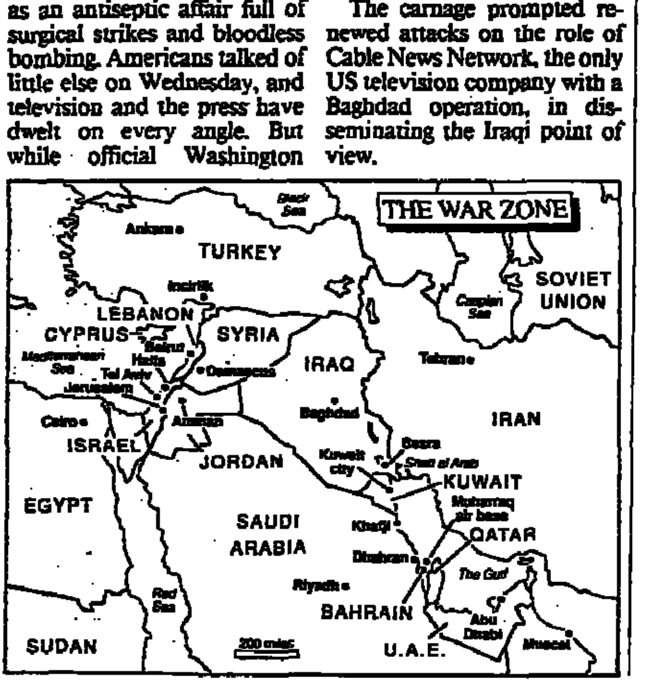
There was no doubt the film from Baghdad marked a turning point in public perception of a war that has been viewed as an antiseptic affair full of surgical strikes and bloodless bombing. Americans talked of little else on Wednesday, and television and the press have dwelt on every angle. But while official Washington switched to the defensive for the first time, interviews showed Americans were angry over the anti-American political backlash abroad and Saddam Hussein's apparent propaganda windfall.

In some New York bars, the kind of places where customers wear T-shirts proclaiming "Nuke Baghdad" and "Baghdad, parking lot of the Middle East", the bombing was greeted with something like dismissive glee.

The consensus was echoed, with one big exception, in newspaper editorials and television commentaries yesterday. *The Washington Post* called on America to avoid "being panicked into demanding further restrictions, Vietnam-style, on the bombing." The *Wall Street Journal* said "civilians are Saddam's fodder", and added: "The Bush administration is not likely to be pushed off course by such a story". The *New York Post* worried that Saddam was beating America in the propaganda war and blamed him for all civilian casualties.

The exception was *The New York Times*, which has consistently opposed the war. "Civilian casualties hurt the allied cause," it said. "It seems reasonable to ask, why not stop bombing cities?"

The carnage prompted renewed attacks on the role of Cable News Network, the only US television company with a Baghdad operation, in disseminating the Iraqi point of view.



ARAB REACTION

Region swept by rage and grief

By Our Foreign Staff

SYRIA said President Saddam Hussein was responsible for the deaths of people in a Baghdad air raid shelter hit by American bombs, and Egypt said civilian deaths were in the nature of war, but rage and grief swept the Arab world yesterday, heightening hostility to America.

Syrian radio said: "He who holds the decision to stop the bloodletting with one word, and refrains from saying that word, is responsible for the spilling of every extra drop of Iraqi blood."

But Yassir Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organisation leader, visited the shelter yesterday and said the attack was an "abominable crime". He said his visit confirmed his belief that allied bombing was directed at "public services, hospitals, schools, factories, mosques, churches and holy sites". Thousands of enraged Palestinians demonstrated in refugee camps in Lebanon.

Jordan, Algeria and Tunisia declared official mourning and voiced outrage. Jordanian demonstrators stoned the American and Egyptian embassies and people demonstrated throughout Tunisia.

The Tunisian government called the bombing a "barbaric and flagrant violation of law", Jordan denounced "a horrible massacre" and President Chadli Benjedid of Algeria accused certain Arab states of "lending a hand to an operation of genocide". Moroccan officials called for a truce. Ali Akbar Velayati, the Iranian foreign minister, said the bombing showed the war was getting out of hand.

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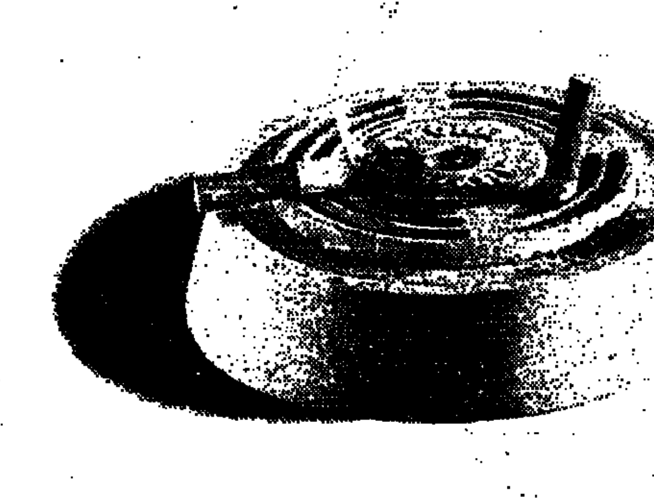

What use is a smoke alarm with dead batteries?

Don't forget it, check it.

Judge orders adjournment of Winnie Mandela trial

From GAVIN BELL IN JOHANNESBURG

THE trial of Winnie Mandela on kidnap and serious assault charges has been adjourned until March 6 in the hope that the South African police can trace an important witness, Gabriel Mekgwe, who was abducted from a church mission in Soweto last weekend.

Two plaintiffs yesterday refused to testify. Mr Justice M. S. Stegmann, presiding, threatened the men with indefinite imprisonment if they did not give evidence. After ruling that fear for their lives did not constitute "just excuse", he gave them 20 minutes to decide whether to testify, or face successive five-year prison terms. After a brief recess, the lawyer for the two, Kenneth Kgase, aged 31, and Barend Mono, aged 21, said they were still refusing to testify. Jan Swanepoel, for the prosecution, then moved for a postponement in the hope that the police might find Mr Mekgwe, aged 22. He said Mr Kgase and Mr Mono had agreed to give evidence if Mr Mekgwe were found alive.

The three are the survivors of a kidnapping and assault a year ago, allegedly by Mrs Mandela and seven others. The leader of Mrs Mandela's entourage, which posed as a football club, was sentenced to death last August for the murder of a fourth person, Stompie Moeketsi Seipei, aged 14. Four defendants have skipped bail.

Mrs Mandela, who denies the charges, made a clenched fist salute before entering the dock yesterday. Her husband, Nelson Mandela, the deputy president of the African National Congress, was in the public gallery.

● **HARARE:** The ANC office in Zimbabwe said yesterday it was sceptical of reports that Mr Mekgwe was in Harare (Jan Raath writes). Max Mlonyeni, the ANC representative, said he suspected that a call reported by the South African Press Association to come from Mr Mekgwe in Harare was a hoax.

Diary, page 14

Pretoria to speed jail releases

From RAY KENNEDY
IN JOHANNESBURG

THREE South African supreme court judges have been appointed to head special indemnity committees to hasten the release of political prisoners. The announcement by the justice ministry in Cape Town follows talks two days ago between the government and the African National Congress on the deadlock in interpreting agreements, which stalled progress towards constitutional reform.

A statement after the meeting, led by President de Klerk and Nelson Mandela, the deputy president of the ANC, said they had reached a compromise. Although details have not been made public, it appears the justice ministry's announcement is part of it.

Haunting image: ghostly roadside figures which startled drivers near Buffalo, New York State, proved on closer inspection to be a row of shrubs wrapped in sacking to protect them from the cold

Window on war in heaven's door

From JAMES PRINGLE AT PREAH VIHEAR, CAMBODIA

PEACE seems far away to the handful of soldiers who guard a lonely outpost at this famous but decaying ancient Khmer temple high on a mountainside in northern Cambodia.

Conflict is no stranger to the ninth-century Preah Vihear, often described as one of the most beautiful temples in Indochina. Nowadays its magnificent location, 2,100ft above Cambodia's green forest, provides an eagle's eye view of the bloody and seemingly endless Cambodian war.

The steep sides of the mountain are laced with landmines and ammunition boxes. A lichen is eating away many of the stone blocks that make up the temple, unmaintained for 21 years of war. Thieves have made off with fallen statues.

Ownership of the sandstone temple, whose name means holy monastery, has been contested for centuries. Most recently, it was seized by Thailand in 1953 when border police chased away the sole Cambodian occupant, an unarmed watchman.

In 1962, the International Court of Justice endorsed Cambodia's claim to the ruin and the Thais reluctantly pulled out. Built for privacy and meditation in 893 by King Yasovarman I, it is currently held by forces of the Vietnam-backed Heng Samrin regime in Phnom Penh.

"Peace seems very far away," says Lieutenant Y Thol, aged 28, who commands the small detachment here, after he welcomes a rare visitor. On a clear day, one can see 65 miles into Cambodia, to Mount Kulen, a Khmer Rouge base not far from the famous Angkor ruins.

As he stands with me gazing at the spectacular view, a Cambodian soldier says: "The war continues because the leaders on both sides want to be big people." Ancient Cambodian writers described the temple as the door to heaven, and that image comes to mind while climbing the 173 steps that lead to the exquisite but half-ruined outer buildings. The lines of a stone *naga*, a sacred cobra, follow the contours of the staircase.

A huge red-and-blue flag of the Phnom Penh regime mocks the Khmer Rouge far below. "We are not afraid they can take us by surprise," says Second Lieutenant Phuon Ran, aged 28.

While one can walk on a narrow path towards the staircase from the Thai border just a hundred yards away – the visitor is asked not to stray because of mines – access from the Cambodian plain below is up the almost sheer face of the escarpment.

Troops say it takes ten hours to labour up with food and ammunition from the nearest village. They do, indeed, seem confident the Khmer Rouge could not make the climb undetected, and they walk around without their weapons. "Our forces are guarding the approaches below," says Lieutenant Ran.

There is talk of an international effort to renovate Preah Vihear but experts say work cannot start until mines are cleared and security guaranteed. For that, peace is necessary.

It may not come soon. Even while the four Cambodian factions continue their sporadic peace talks, a Khmer Rouge shelling attack on Battambang, the second city of Cambodia, killed 16 people this week.

Quebec told to beware dream of separatism

From JOHN BEST IN OTTAWA

BRIAN Mulroney, the Canadian prime minister, has launched a counter-offensive against separatism in Quebec, warning the people of that predominantly French-speaking province to beware of "dream merchants" in their midst whose aim is to destroy Canada.

In a speech in Quebec city on Wednesday, the prime minister acknowledged that Canada is suffering from a "deep-rooted malaise" stemming from long-simmering constitutional and other problems. The federal government was prepared to discuss a "profound" redistribution of powers with the provinces, "but we will reject any formula that aims to dismantle Canada".

He listed a series of ways in which Quebeckers would lose economically by leaving the confederation and told them: "Watch out for the dream merchants, those who say it's no problem to destroy a great country and rebuild it later."

It was Mr Mulroney's second important speech in two days on the theme of Canada's crumbling national unity. On Tuesday, speaking in Toronto, he admonished English Canadians to understand that Quebeckers "will never negotiate on their knees" with the rest of Canada.

Opinion polls have consistently shown a majority of Quebec people to be in favour of some form of sovereignty.

A draft set of demands for sweeping new powers for Quebec at the expense of the federal government is the immediate focus of attention.

Publication of the demands by Quebec's governing Liberal party late last month brought home to Canadians the force of the pro-sovereignty gale sweeping the province of 6½ million people. The Conservative federal government in Ottawa is now desperately trying to seize the initiative.

The seriousness of the growing danger to Canada's present political structure was underlined on January 29 in Quebec city, when a special committee of the ruling Liberals set out its proposals for a wholesale invasion of federal areas of jurisdiction.

The plan, which will be presented for adoption at a party convention opening on March 8, would leave the Ottawa government with sole control over just four areas: defence, customs, currency and equalisation payments to Canada's poorer regions. The list of demands was greeted with disbelief in most of the nine English-speaking provinces.

Mulroney: counter-attack to save confederation

Mogadishu security clampdown

Nairobi – The interim Somali government has divided the ruined capital of Mogadishu into five security zones in an attempt to end anarchy after the overthrow of Mohamed Siad Barre, the former president, last month.

Mogadishu radio reported that the United Somali Congress had stopped the movement of armed people other than security forces.

Visitors to Mogadishu said more than 100 people died last weekend in clashes between the congress and the Somali Patriotic Movement. *(Reuter)*

Seal cull halted

Cape Town – South Africa has suspended temporarily all seal culling on its coast pending further research into the issue, Louis Pienaar, the environment minister, said. The study, to include more acceptable methods of culling other than clubbing and stabbing, should be concluded within two years. *(AFP)*

Military offer

Manila – America has offered the Philippines between $160 million (£85 million) and $520 million a year for the use of military bases, depending on the duration of a new lease. However, according to diplomatic sources, Raul Manglapus, the Philippine foreign secretary, wants at least double before the renewal of the lease, which will expire in September. *(AFP)*

Sikh attack

Delhi – Sikh militants shot dead two bank guards in a Punjab village near Bhatinda and lost three of their own men in a gun fight with police, the Press Trust of India reported. In other incidents, a police constable and two civilians were killed by militants fighting for a separate Sikh homeland in the troubled northern Indian state. *(AFP)*

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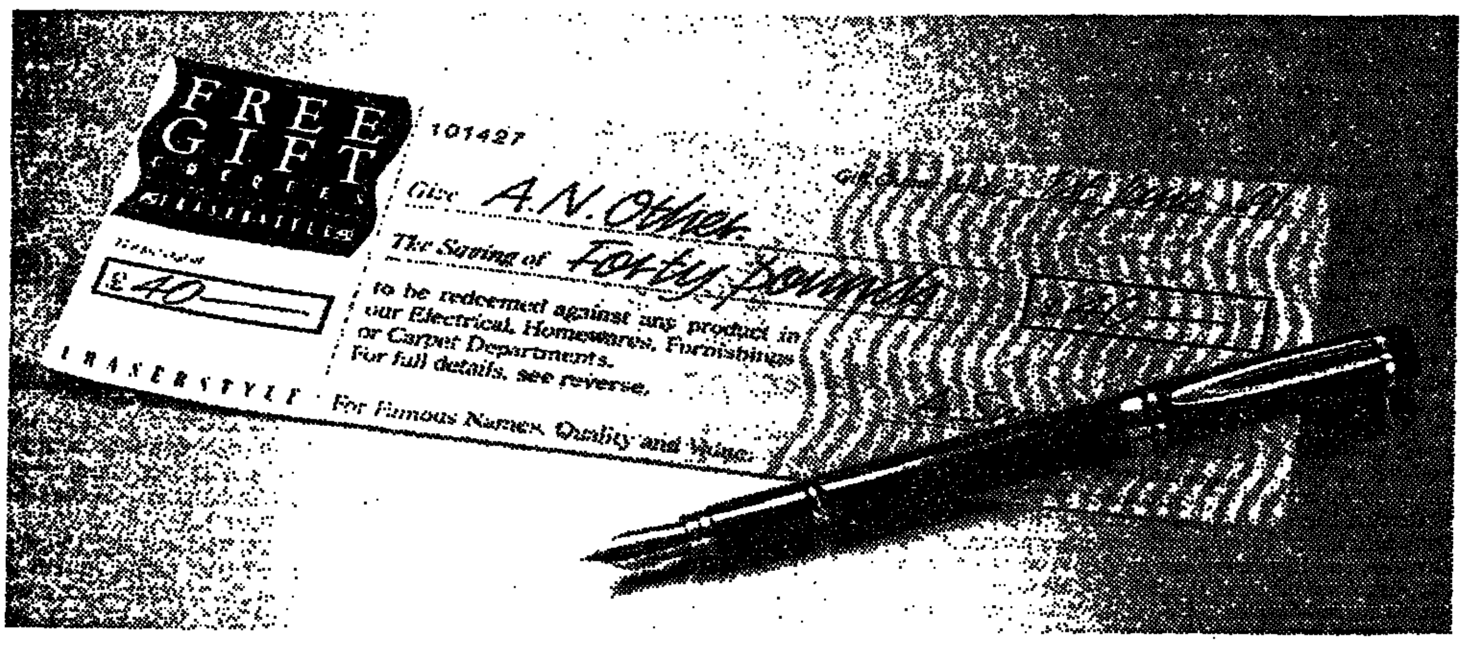
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The Independent Television Commission (ITC) proposes to grant 15 regional licences and one national breakfast-time licence to provide television programme services on Channel 3 from 1 January 1993.

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The ITC accordingly invites applications for licences for the areas, at the times of day and on the days of the week, listed below.

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All week (excluding 6 am – 9.25 am)
East of England
All week (excluding 6 am – 9.25 am)
London (Weekday)
9.25 am Mondays – 5.15 pm Fridays (excluding 6 am – 9.25 am)
London (Weekend)
5.15 pm Fridays – 6 am Mondays (excluding 6 am – 9.25 am)
North of Scotland
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North-East England
All week (excluding 6 am – 9.25 am)
North-West England
All week (excluding 6 am – 9.25 am)
Northern Ireland
All week (excluding 6 am – 9.25 am)
South & South-East England
All week (excluding 6 am – 9.25 am)
South-West England
All week (excluding 6 am – 9.25 am)
Wales & West of England
All week (excluding 6 am – 9.25 am)
Yorkshire
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National breakfast-time
6 am – 9.25 am All week

There are two separate documents, in respect of the invitation to apply, one for the regional licences, the other for the national breakfast-time licence, and a draft licence pertaining to each of these two types of service. There are, in addition, notes on regional transmission coverage available for each region. These may be obtained on written request from The Secretary, Independent Television Commission, 70 Brompton Road, London SW3 1EY.

A number of other relevant documents are listed in the invitations to apply. These can be obtained from the ITC's Information Office at the same address. Applications addressed to the Secretary to the Commission, giving the information in the form specified in the appropriate invitation to apply document in relation to any licence applied for, together with the application fee, should reach the ITC at the above address not later than noon on 15th May 1991.

ITC
Independent Television Commission

هكذا من الأصل

Soviet consumers face 300 per cent increase in prices

From Mary Dejevsky in Moscow

THE Soviet leadership is planning across-the-board price rises of up to 300 per cent in an attempt to reduce state subsidies and bring some order to the ailing consumer market. The rises, for which no date has been announced but which are expected sooner rather than later, will affect almost all categories of goods, including food.

Yesterday the Russian Federation parliament met in closed session all day to discuss a draft agreement on nationwide price rises formulated by the central Soviet government. According to one participant, the Russian president, Boris Yeltsin, refused to support the document, arguing that the central authorities were trying to make republic governments take the blame for the increases and the public anger that will follow.

The existence of a draft national agreement on price rises was confirmed this week by the mayor of Moscow, Gavriil Popov, who also objected that local authorities would bear the brunt of anger because they administer the shops. They have no control, however, over the depots and the manufacturing infrastructure, most of which is in the hands of the central or republic authorities.

According to the information supplied to the Russian parliament yesterday, there is a comprehensive list of commodities which are placed in three price categories. The top category, for non-essentials, will be subject to "negotiated prices" agreed between manufacturer and retail outlet and effectively allowed to float free. Beneath these will be regulated prices, with a fixed ceiling, and fixed state prices.

The middle category is said to be the largest, with only the most basic goods set at fixed state prices. A sum of 60 billion roubles (£60 billion) is said to have been set aside to "compensate" people for the increases through their wages, allowances or pensions. One deputy said this would allow an average of only 30 roubles a month per person, or 15 per cent of the average wage.

The central leadership appears to hope that the parliaments of the Soviet Union's 15 republics will individually agree to the price rises and deflect popular discontent from the central government. There may, however, be a more devious purpose.

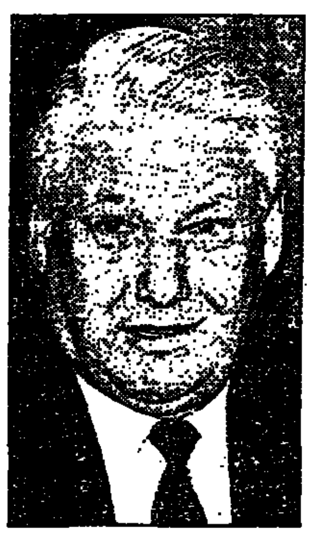
If the governments of the Russian Federation and other radically minded republics are made to take responsibility for sweeping price rises, popular discontent might be sufficient to topple them. As Mr Yeltsin clearly appreciates, his sanction for higher prices with inadequate compensation could end his career as Russia's most popular politician.

Price rises have been expected, and dreaded, by the Soviet population since last May, when the then prime minister, Nikolai Ryzhkov, announced steep increases from the beginning of 1991. This is the third attempt to impose them. Panic buying and civil unrest thwarted Mr Ryzhkov's first attempt.

In November, the government announced that certain "non-essential" goods would be sold at "negotiated prices", but several republics refused to implement the decision. At the turn of the year, the head of the state prices commission said rises of up to 60 per cent would be introduced in the first half of the year, but promised they would not take effect in January.

This week the new Soviet prime minister, Valentin Pavlov, promised that the rises would not be introduced without a social consensus, that they would be announced in advance, and there would be generous compensation.

Leading article, page 15



Yeltsin: has refused to support draft agreement

'Black colonel' forecasts revolt

From Reuter in Moscow

VIKTOR Imantovich Alksnis, branded the "Black Colonel" by liberal foes, paints a chilling picture of a Soviet Union racked by civil war. From the ruins, he sees emerging a brutal "dictatorship of the street scum".

The dire prophecies of Colonel Alksnis, head of parliament's influential Soyuz (Union) faction, catch the spirit of the age for some hardline Communists now fighting the tide of reform.

Despite his military epaulettes, the colonel is free to press a fierce campaign against the man he says is leading the country to ruin: President Gorbachev. Critics already see the colonel's hand in the resignations of an interior minister and the former foreign minister, Eduard Shevardnadze.

"I'm not a prophet ... but I'd say we're approaching the day of rebellion," he says in his hotel room by the Kremlin walls. "The nature of the Russian rebellion, as the poet Pushkin said, is brutal and merciless. It knows no reason, no leaders — it certainly won't be the work of any Black Colonels."

"They will smash McDonald's," he says, an ironic smile flickering on his face at the mention of the new American fast-food outlets in Moscow. "They will smash hotels and food stores, they will crush all in their path. What may follow from that is effectively a dictatorship of the street scum."

The colonel says the current stalemate in the rebel Baltic region, where 21 people died in army violence last month, showed Mr Gorbachev's helplessness. Gripped by the same paralysis, the economy may soon collapse, throwing millions into despair, he said. "Gorbachev should go now but in any case he has only months left."

Radical reformers, their star waning since electoral triumphs in March, see Colonel Alksnis's vision as a veiled argument for repression by the army, and the colonel himself as the simple servant of a master who has ruled Russia for 73 years — the Communist party.

His style raises eyebrows even among fellow Communists. "Alksnis is sometimes a little over-emotional," Moscow city Communist party chief, Yuri Prokofiyev, remarked this week.

The colonel, aged 40, dark-haired and slightly built, receives guests with a mild relaxed smile, turning off the rock music video channel on his television.

He describes himself as a political "dilettante" thrown onto the stage by circumstances. But he is an intense man, his emotions never far from the surface.

He shifts, agitated, in his chair, his face trembling slightly at the suggestion perestroika is threatened by tanks. "I won't be told that's what the army wants," he says, adding that many people want the army as a protector.

The scale of Colonel Alksnis's support is unclear. Few politicians would yet dare openly back his views, but senior officers in three Lithuanian cities expressed sympathy in interviews.

Talks on troop cuts under way

Vienna — Nato and Warsaw Pact negotiators opened a second round of talks aimed at reducing the level of troops in Europe (Brenda Fowler writes). As mandated in the last conventional forces in Europe treaty signed in Paris, the follow-on talks — known as CFE1a — will seek to limit military personnel in Europe and set up a system of aerial inspection.

Troop levels are likely to be discussed first, while the aerial inspection operation depends on progress in the "open skies" talks, which were held last year in Ottawa and Budapest, a Western diplomat said.

Vatican visit

Rome — The Albanian bishop of Scutari, who was released from prison last December after 25 years' incarceration by the communists, has paid a first visit to the Vatican. Mgr Simoni Jubani met the Pope and senior Vatican officials. Nearly a third of the 3.5 million population of Albania is Roman Catholic.

Noriega witness

Miami — The last main co-defendant in custody in the trial of Manuel Noriega pleaded guilty to a single drug charge and agreed to testify against the deposed Panamanian leader. Amet Paredes faced 95 years in prison on a variety of counts, but under the agreement prosecutors will recommend a maximum of ten years. *(AP)*

Ershad protest

Dhaka — Troops opened fire killing three people and injuring 11 others as a military convoy was attacked by demonstrators in northern Bangladesh demanding the trial of Hussain Muhammad Ershad, the former president who left office last December, police and witnesses said.

Secession costs

Belgrade — Yugoslav leaders agreed to draw up estimates of how much it would cost each of the country's six republics to secede, Alija Izetbegovic, the president of Bosnia-Herzegovina, said. He was speaking after a fourth round of talks between federal leaders and presidents of the six republics ended in stalemate. *(Reuter)*

Ukraine is to hold its own referendum

From Robert Seely in Kiev

THE Ukraine moved a step closer to independence when the republic's supreme soviet decided to stage a separate referendum to run jointly with the union wide vote called by President Gorbachev.

The ballot will give the republic's 52 million population, the second largest in the Soviet Union, the chance to vote on Ukrainian independence for the first time since 1918.

"At this stage it is a victory because we expected another blow from the communists, we were prepared for the worst," said Oles Shevchenko, one of the pro-independence deputy leaders. All three Baltic republics plus Georgia, Armenia and Moldavia have now refused to take part in marches union wide referendums.

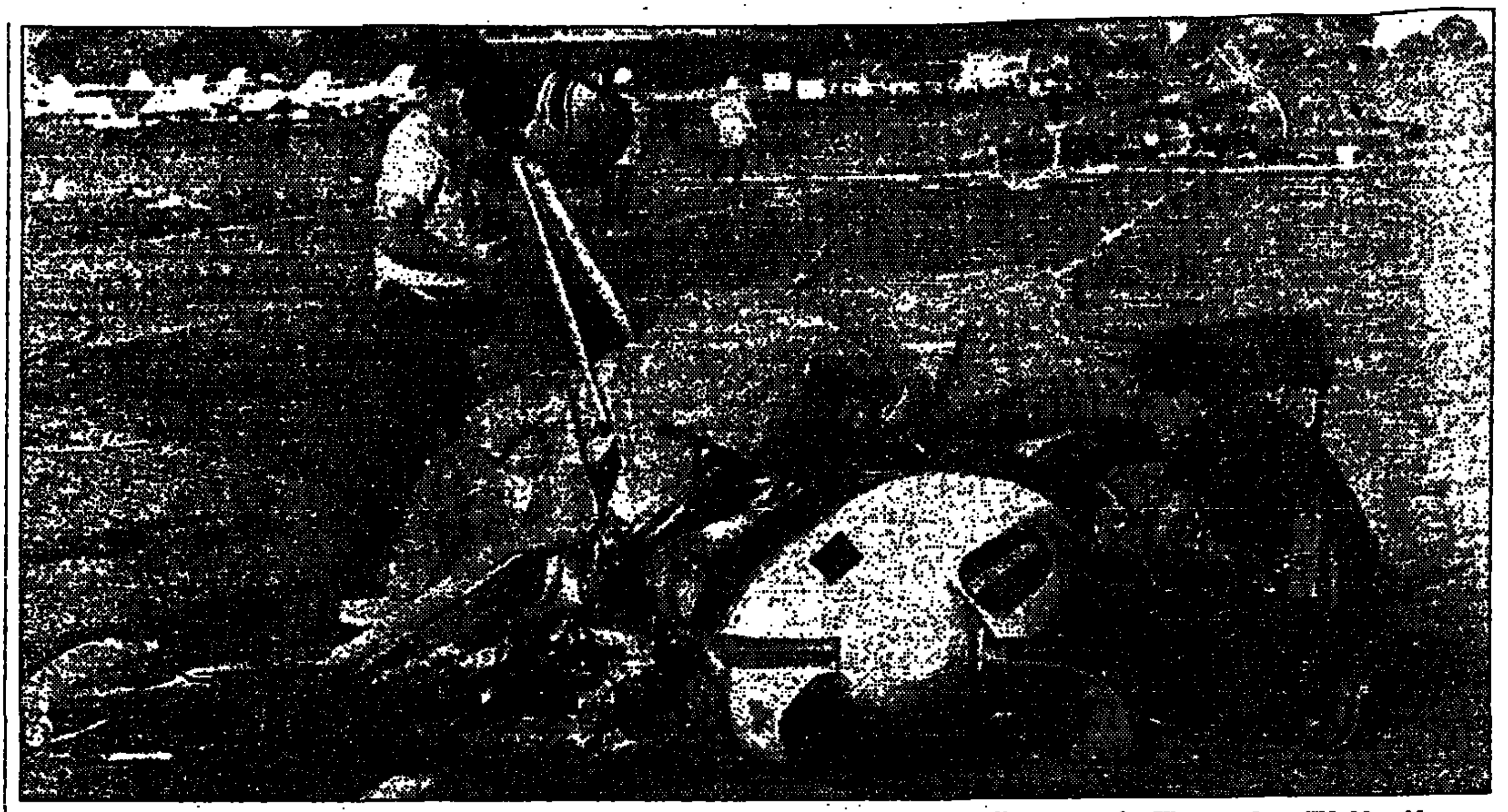
The nationalist's triumph in the Ukraine, which is strategically vital to the future of the Soviet Union, may prove to be temporary. As with Lithuania's referendum last weekend, the Soviet central authorities could ignore the results of the Ukraine's ballots and claim it to be merely an opinion poll.

Larisa Skoryk, a parliamentary deputy, said: "This gives the Ukraine a chance to syphon off votes from the union referendum, although you cannot predict the outcome because we do not know if the results will be genuine or forged because we have never experienced nationwide democratic elections."

● **Moscow** — *Pravda* denounced America yesterday for sending aid directly to the Baltic republics, saying it violated Soviet sovereignty and ignored the importance of a unified Soviet Union. "It is clear Washington has crossed its own Rubicon, beyond which, it seems, one can expect new difficulties in Soviet-American relations," Pravda said in a commentary.

The newspaper said it had no objection to assistance but added: "No one said a word about the fact that in a purely formal sense it is a violation of the sovereignty of the USSR.

"There is not even one word of recognition of the objective importance of preserving the unity of the Soviet Union in the interests of supporting constructive co-operation between our two countries," it added.



Runway enquiry: emergency workers looking at the wreckage after a stunt plane, foreground, and a helicopter carrying Kirk Douglas collided in mid-air at Santa Paula airport, California. Both people in the plane died, while the film star, his friend Noel Blanc and the helicopter pilot were injured

Pact's demise spurs defence rethink

From Roger Boyes in Warsaw

LEADERS from the heart of Europe — Poland, Czechoslovakia and Hungary — meet today to work out a new security concept for the region now that the death sentence has been passed on the Warsaw Pact.

Although other issues, from cross-border pollution to energy co-operation, are on the agenda, it is the broad defence question that is occupying the thoughts of the Central European reformers. How should they reorient their foreign policies, now that the alliance structure has collapsed? How should they defend their reforms and their countries, if President Gorbachev is ousted by military-backed hardliners?

The point was underlined yesterday by Professor Krzysztof Skubiszewski, the Polish foreign minister, who said that Poland wanted a fast agreement with Moscow on the withdrawal of 50,000 Soviet troops. If no accord is forthcoming, Polish officials say, Poland could prove very unco-operative in transporting the Soviet forces from Germany. The formal decision to dismantle the pact's military structure will be taken at a session of its consultative council this month. Even the Soviet Union, bowing to pressure from the Central European democracies, has agreed that there can be no further delay in scrapping it.

But what can be put in place of the pact? That is the chief topic in the presidential and prime ministerial summit in Visegrad on Friday. The Soviet Union seems to favour a network of bilateral agreements, analogous to the mutual assistance treaties with Finland.

But the Central European democracies have different ideas. The Finnish scenario smacks too much of political compliance and seems to put curbs on sovereignty.

The new Pentagonal group, linking Austria, Italy, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia, provides a handy forum for transnational issues, such as transport and pollution, but plainly is ill-suited to tackle defence and security. At the moment, the only practical solution for the Central Europeans is a form of armed neutrality. For this region at least, military alliances have outlived their usefulness.

In a separate development, 2,000 angry Silesian coalminers shouting "get out of your bathtub, Lech", stormed through the gates of Poland's presidential palace in Warsaw yesterday to protest against a nationwide system of strict wage controls.

It was the fiercest attack on the Solidarity government since Lech Walesa, the erstwhile Solidarity hero, was elected president two months ago.

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Major on the wrong track

Janet Daley

On the Thursday of The Great Snow, I was imprisoned in a BBC car for five hours while it crawled the 10 miles from Lime Grove studios to my home. Roads throughout London were reported to be solidly jammed. Because of the total collapse of public transport it seemed that every car for miles around had taken to the roads at once, giving us a taste of what life without a commuter rail system would be like.

By Wednesday, in spite of a thaw, rail services were still disrupted. British Rail, subjected to even more derision than usual, argued that it was not worth paying for a system to be permanently protected against winter conditions that might occur, briefly, once every four years or so.

In other words, we can complain as much as we like. The transport authorities are not going to change their spending priorities. Last weekend Mr Major told the Young Conservatives it was imperative that the quality of transport and other public services be improved. He presumably intends to accomplish this by exhortation alone, since there is no sign that the government has recognised the disastrous consequences of imposing the rules of private commerce on what is still a public industry. By insisting that British Rail and London Regional Transport aspire to be self-supporting while remaining nationalised, Conservative policy neatly hands us the worst of both worlds.

It cuts subsidy in order to enforce spending discipline without allowing for the fact that BR and LRT are still lumbered with the structures that undermine aggressive commercial management. Public transport does not have the regional flexibility that a devolved private organisation would permit: wage bargaining and working conditions must be negotiated within the framework of national union agreements, even by LRT. When London commuter services become so crowded that they are dangerous, management's proposed is to use the price mechanism to control over-use: in plain words, to make public transport so expensive that fewer people will be inclined to use it.

Hence BR manages to subvert both sets of values. It ignores any obligation to serve those less well-off, and makes nonsense of the profit-making requirement. What kind of private company, finding that its product was enormously popular, would deliberately price itself out of the market because it could not meet demand? Even a privatised monopoly has an obligation to its shareholders to maximise profits. Commuter rail services find themselves (or rather, their customers find them) to be neither fish nor fowl: neither a social service nor a thriving capitalist enterprise.

The rail unions are one obstacle to BR meeting demand in a straightforward capitalist manner. They resist any moves toward regionalisation, which would undermine their centralised authority, cling to Buggins' turn promotion procedures and refuse to accept common-sense disciplinary actions. They are clearly still working on the old assumption that public industries exist as much to benefit employees as customers. Management finds it easier to go along with the industry's culture of complacency than to hold out against the conflicting demands of government and unions.

With their power over a monopoly public service, the rail unions attract professional agitators who see the railways as a satisfyingly prominent political arena. A personable young man I know became a railway guard after leaving higher education in order to apply his Maoist political philosophy. He left BR a few years ago, but still talks nostalgically of how left-wing factions, from the Socialist Workers' Party to the anarcho-syndicalists, fought for ascendancy among the railway staff at King's Cross. How many semi-skilled jobs in industry offer that chance of high-profile political power?

Union obstinacy and management incompetence have done much to discredit the idea of subsidy, but there is a more high-minded objection as well: that government support is hogged by the south-east services needed to get people to work in London. (InterCity services are profitable chiefly because they rely on expense-account business travellers.) Why should the hapless residents of Bootle and Bangor be forced to pay through taxes for an uneconomic commuter system in the most affluent part of the country?

> ‘Our railways are neither a properly supported public service nor a ruthlessly efficient private business’

A fair enough point on the face of it, but oddly, this argument is not applied to other areas of taxation. Why, for example, do we ask the childless to help pay for school funding? Presumably because a political decision has been made that universal state education is for the good of the whole nation. By the same token, the critical national need for an efficiently functioning capital city surely justifies proper subsidy. The Royal Institute of British Architects has just launched a report, *Breaking the Transport Deadlock*, in which it states persuasively that "towns and cities without efficient public transport systems will be condemned to terminal decline with grave consequences for the economic well being of the nation".

Countries such as France and Italy, which make publicly funded transport work, throw profit motive out of the window and shower their systems with money, not only for infrastructure but to keep fares down. The need for public transport is greatest, after all, among the lowest paid. As it is, our railways are neither a properly supported public service nor a ruthlessly efficient, competitive, private business.

The government should decide either to subsidise services such as transport fully, or privatise them. Successful models exist for both. Until it makes up its mind, we shall be caught between two political dogmas with a self-defeating British compromise.

Jobless, the Tory downfall?

As unemployment rises, Ivor Crewe sees key marginals under threat in the increasingly vulnerable south

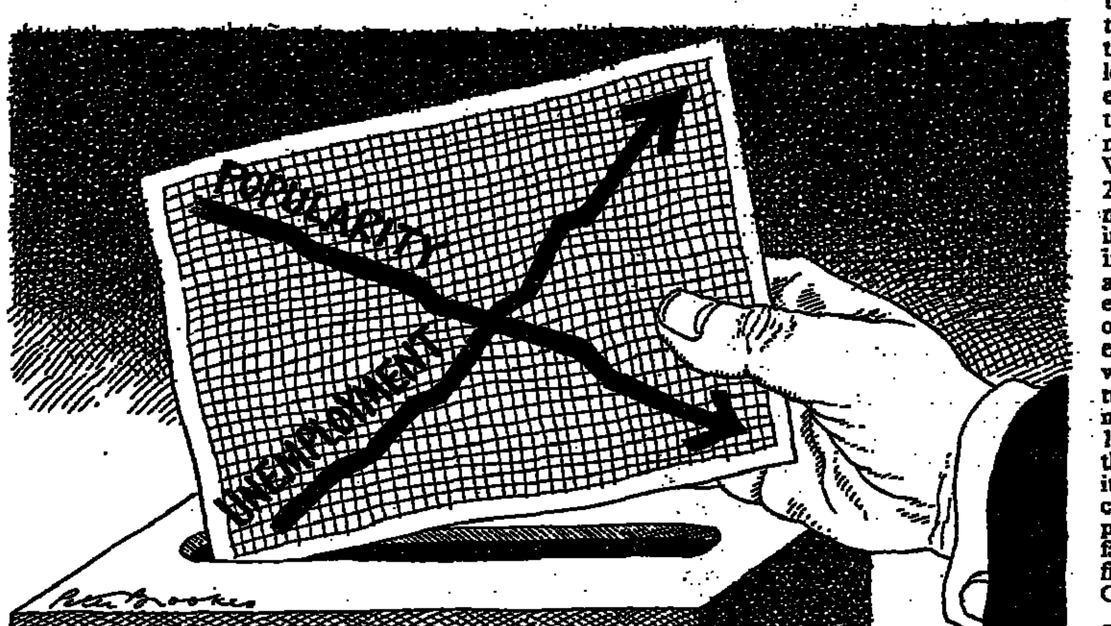
A new factor has entered the increasingly complex equation confronting Conservative election strategists: unemployment. Having steadily ebbed from a 3.2 million high-water mark in the third quarter of 1986, the tide turned in June last year. Since then it has risen from a seasonally adjusted 1.62 million to 1.89 million in figures out yesterday.

Conservative Central Office might be excused for asking complacently whether lengthening dole queues actually lose votes. The econometric models of election results, so avidly digested in party headquarters, place little weight on unemployment compared with interest rates and inflation.

Conservatives might even be excused some cynicism. Their two victories of the 1980s demonstrated that a government could preside over mass unemployment and not merely survive, but prosper. The perhaps disagreeable moral of 1983 and 1987 was that the vast majority of voters who wanted jobs had jobs (and better living standards) and in the secrecy of the polling booth were not prepared to vote on behalf of the minority who did not.

The electoral reality is that high inflation hurts almost everybody; high taxes a substantial majority; high interest rates an increasing number; but high unemployment hurts relatively few.

However, a closer look at the electoral lessons of the 1980-82 recession suggests that Conservative complacency might be misplaced. One needs to distinguish between the electorate as a whole, who did not punish the Conservatives in 1983 for unemployment, and the unemployed, who clearly did: while the Conservative vote fell by 1 one per cent in the country at large, it fell by 10 per cent among the unemployed. In the unemployment blackspots of Merseyside, central Scotland and Birmingham, constituencies bucked the national trend and swung to Labour.



Admittedly, the impact on the overall result was very limited. For one thing, almost half the unemployed failed to vote: registration and turnout rates were well below the national average, especially in the inner cities. For another, the majority of the unemployed who went to the polls were Labour voters living in Labour areas. All but three of the 50 constituencies with the highest unemployment rates had been solidly Labour at the previous election. The backlash of the jobless against the Conservative government merely made safe Labour seats safer.

This time the psephology of unemployment looks different. The recession's initial casualties are the hi-tech and service sectors of the booming Tory south, not the traditional heavy industry of the north. More big lay-offs are reported for airways, finance and computing than for shipbuilding, steel and cars. The new unemployed, with financial commitments and high expectations, are unlikely abstainers.

The Conservatives' electoral problem is underlined in the table, which sets out the rise in unemployment since June 1990 in the 93 Conservative-held marginals that Labour must gain to win the next election. The table contains two pieces of bad news for Chris Patten, the Tory chairman. Unemployment has risen slightly faster in the marginals than elsewhere, probably because they contain a higher than average proportion of the C1 and C2 socio-economic categories that have been worst hit by the recession. And unemployment has generally risen fastest in the regions containing the bulk of Conservative marginals.

North of the border, unemployment has barely increased but, after their battering by the Scots at the last election, the Conservatives have only five marginal seats left to defend against Labour. In the south, including London, where unemployment has risen by more than 25 per cent, 37 Conservative marginals are at risk. In the Midlands, where its growth is less marked but still above the national average, there are 17.

Specific constituencies make the point. Take, for example, the marginals along the M4 corridor of high-tech prosperity. Between June and December 1990, unemployment jumped by 29 per cent in Kingswood, a massive 53 per cent in Swindon, 40 per cent in Slough and 43 per cent in Feltham. Or consider the new town marginals in Essex and Hertfordshire: unemployment has risen by 36 per cent in Basildon, 41 per cent in Harlow and 55 per cent in Stevenage.

Labour must gain all of these seats to win a workable majority — and Labour held them all before 1979.

Percentage increase in unemployment June-December 1990 (seasonally adjusted)

	GB	Scot	North	Midlands	Wales	London	South (exc Lon)
All seats	+14.8	+4.7	+9.7	+13.6	+20.9	+22.1	+27.9
Tory marginals*	+18.9	+7.0	+12.4	+15.5	+26.5	+27.6	+34.9
Number	93	5	29	17	5	21	16

Source: *Department of Employment Gazette*, August 1990 and February 1991.
*The 93 most marginal Conservative seats, which Labour must gain to win an overall majority.

Of course, these percentage rises in unemployment look big because of their low base. Absolute *levels* of unemployment remain lower in the south than the north (although the regional gap is narrowing) and lower now than at the 1987 general election. But another lesson from the early 1980s is that the trend mattered more than the level. When unemployment shot above 2 million in August 1980, with much attendant publicity, the impact on voters was almost immediate: increased pessimism about Britain's (and their own) economic prospects, a nose-dive of confidence in the government's economic competence and, a few weeks later, a Conservative downturn in the polls. When unemployment passed 3 million in January 1982, amid even more publicity, the pattern in the polls repeated itself. But once it stabilised and coasted at 3.3. million — and prices and interest rates began to fall — economic optimism, confidence in the government, and Conservative support all revived.

Trends matter more than levels because voters are moved by fear more than altruism. Rising unemployment means lay-offs and widespread insecurity, fanned by the media. High but stable levels of unemployment, on the other hand, mean dole queues, which after a short time make for feature stories rather than headlines. Governments are safer if unemployment is 3 million but falling than 2 million and rising.

There is another, crucial, difference between the politics of this recession and the last. In the early 1980s the government managed to avoid much of the blame. It turned unemployment from an issue into a problem. For example, in August 1982 — after three years of Thatcherite economics — NOP found that fewer than a third of voters (31 per cent) blamed the Conservative government. The "world recession" was blamed by 20 per cent, workers and the unions by 18 per cent, and almost one-third did not know. And there was little faith in Labour's ability to do any better. This time, after 12 years in office, the government has no alibis or scapegoats.

The author is professor of government at the University of Essex.

Cold comfort when hundreds die

Philip Howard on a new direct hit for the language

When the Pentagon spokesman said he was quite "comfortable" about the decision to bomb, with pinpoint precision, the air raid shelter in the Baghdad suburb of Amiriya, a shiver ran through British listeners and viewers. How could anyone be comfortable, in the sense that we use the word, about the ghastly death by fire of several hundred women and children?

The word was not well chosen, even for American ears. But there is no way that one can speak decently about the tragedies of war. Great tragedians and poets can manage it. But great tragedians and poets are not employed as spokesmen for the military. The best that ordinary people can do on such occasions is to weep or scream. Words are not adequate. But spokesmen are paid to come up with the words on demand. So the man said he was comfortable.

What he meant was that he was satisfied that the air raid shelter was a command bunker, that he had convincing evidence that this was the case, and that this made it a legitimate military target.

Saddam can survive this war only by breaking the will of the coalition, as the will of the Americans was broken in Vietnam by the endless death and destruction of war. The deaths that broke the American will in Vietnam were mostly of young Americans. But tragedies such as My Lai and death and defoliation from the air for peasant villages had their effect.

So the spokesmen and PR officials have been carefully coached to use verbal camouflage when describing the horrors of war. Humankind cannot bear very much reality, particularly when there is a war on. So we avoid blunt description, and close our eyes and ears to the fact that there are people getting burnt alive out there. In Gulf war euphemism, the only things that get killed are machines. We do not kill or blast people, we degrade or conduct attrition, as in, "We shall not launch the ground offensive until we have attrited the Republican Guard to the point when they no longer have an effective offensive capacity."

When civilians are killed or wounded in a raid on a legitimate military target, as is bound to happen, and has happened in all wars from the Trojan war onwards, our modern media-manipulators cannot bear to mention it plainly, as Virgil did. We now call it collateral damage. This is thought to sound better.

But there was more to "comfortable" than official euphemism, I think. They use the word differently in the States, because of the pernicious effects of Psychobabble, the fast talk of the age of self-analysis and feeling. In British English, comfortable is one of a nest of words used to describe contentment, relief, or well-being. Comfortable is the most general of these words, and can be applied to all kinds of personal feelings, and to anything that contributes to those feelings. I feel comfortable in these shoes. This seat is not comfortable. She has a comfortable income. The patient passed a comfortable night. More specific words in the nest are cosy, restful, and snug. None of them are words that a British English speaker would comfortably apply to mass death by blast and fire.

America is the self-consciousness-raising capital of the world, and Psychobabble is its jargon. It is an inward-looking, self-absorbed jargon. So it uses metaphors of integrating something as disorganised as the speaker's emotions and feelings are supposed to be, as in get it together, get my head together, and get your act together. You are advised to hang loose, or let it all hang out. Comfortable is, I think, a word of this do-it-yourself ego-analysis philosophy, in which the speaker is reporting his feelings about something. I am comfortable with that. It is one way of putting it. But it sounds banal and heartless when the "that" in question is a tragic horror.

A critic of Psychobabble has complained that it is "a set of repetitive verbal formalities that kills off the very spontaneity, candour and understanding it pretends to promote. It's an idiom that reduces psychological insight into a collection of standardised observations, that provides a frozen lexicon to deal with an infinite variety of problems."

When tragedy strikes, the language needed is simple, plain, sad, and looking outwards, not inwards. General Norman Schwarzkopf has shown himself rather good at it. Some of the Pentagon spokesmen need a course in plain-speaking to make them a bit less comfortable.

…and moreover

ALAN COREN

The gritting lorry came past again this morning, but she still wasn't on it. My neighbours, who had lined the chill pavements since first light, trooped back glumly into their premises; one or two threw their Union flags into the frozen gutter; a small boy who piped an unanswerable enquiry had his ear boxed. His father is normally the mildest of men.

It occurred to me that her absence might be put down to the fact that Cricklewood is not a royal borough; but when I rang a Kensington friend to enquire whether anyone had graciously defrosted his mews, I discovered that neither hide nor hair of her had been seen. Astonishing: £1.8 million a day coming in, and still not prepared, while her queendom shivers, to do, quite literally, a hand's turn.

It is not as if she is a stranger to the shovel: those of us who down the years have thrown our hats in the air as she has embedded this commemorative tree or that have always recognised her spadework for the businesslike thing it was.

She also has her own Land-Rover. We bought it for her. Just the job for conditions like this. Gritting in the morning, towing in the afternoon, even the odd meal on wheels, it doesn't seem too much to ask.

I do not expect her to do frozen points, mind. More of a duke's job, that: blow-lamp, crowbar, sledge-hammer. She could always drop him off at Clapham on her way to the gravel pit. Most consorts would be only too happy to muck in. You would not have caught Albert standing idly by while his loyal commuters shivered.

That the Prince of Wales is *hors de combat* goes without saying, but I cannot see why a sore arm should prevent his coming to the aid of British Airways in its hour of need. Nothing strenuous, a few transatlantic flights, perhaps, comfily stretched out across the three Club seats he has paid for. Possibly even taking the helm of Concorde for a prestige English Heritage jaunt (*See this seat of Mars!*); the Japanese would pay folding money for something like that, especially if the Princess Royal came round with the complimentary sushi and hot towels. It's not as if we hadn't coughed up for his flying lessons.

Meanwhile, his radiant wife could be taking British tennis by the scruff of the neck. Those of us with cigarette cards showing George VI gamely flinging himself about at Wimbledon are disgusted, are we not, that his descendants (and spouses) have done nothing to support our lads against Czechs and Swedes and such, except, once a year, to send a minor relative to ask a ball-boy if he's enjoying himself?

The Princess of Wales is well-known to have no mean forehand, and I doubt that I am alone in fancying her chances against Steffi, especially if the PM's new friend Helmut takes *das Eisenkind* on one side and suggests serving underarm in the interests of European amity.

And while I expect no such miracles for English cricket, I should tell you that I have watched Prince Andrew hit 30 off some quite respectable showbiz bowling; which is, I would submit, considerably more than most of our current Test team would have mustered. Why did the boy not fly out to Australia and offer his services this winter? We would have picked up the tab. We always do.

That British television has likewise reached its nadir is also the substance of common consent, along with the incomprehensible neglect of a remedy by our patently insouciant royals. Since the Queen herself is well-known for constantly complaining that everything has gone downhill since *Bonanza*, why has she not despatched at least her junior dependants to freshen the fare and bolster the ratings?

Regal shows have long been cathode winners, and I fail to see why the jaunty chatelaine of York, say, should not take the opportunity of her umpteen arduous foreign trips to wish we were there — is there so much to choose between her and Judith Chalmers? — nor why Prince Edward should not offer himself up for a blind date: the spectacle of him traipsing Benidorm in the rapt company of some nubile Doncaster coiffeuse would bond monarchy and flock as never before.

The royals are simply not pulling their weight in these dark days. Mind you, if they do, they will of course deprive us of something to moan about; but, then again, we could always moan about that.

ANC leaves the door ajar

The African National Congress has dropped its blanket opposition to stage and other artists performing in South Africa in favour of an ideology test that would make some welcome while treating others like pariahs. The decision has put Equity and the Musicians' Union on the spot: both have long opposed visits to South Africa by their members, and neither has any immediate plans to change this policy.

Mandla Langa, the ANC cultural spokesman in London, says: "We would like international artists like Harry Belafonte and Stevie Wonder to travel to South Africa to help strengthen our democratic structures. This is not a relaxation of the boycott, merely a clarification."

However, the Musicians Union says its total ban will remain at least until the issue can be debated at a delegate conference in late July. Rosie Brocklehurst of Equity says: "We can't stop individual members from going, but after a referendum of our 45,000 members we have a standing instruction to advise them not to work there." Any change of policy would need a further referendum, and the union has no such plans.

Actress and Labour candidate Glenda Jackson, whose consistent support for the cultural boycott would see her sail through the ANC's ideology test, says she would now be willing to visit and perform in South Africa. "I have always automatically refused all work offers in South Africa, but if the ANC is prepared to reopen the door, that is wonderful."

Jackson may now reconsider a BBC offer to front a television documentary on street theatre in Soweto and other black townships. The ANC says that is the type of project that could now receive its blessing.

THE TIMES DIARY

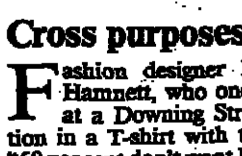
● *Much concern at Harrods yesterday for Viscount Stormont during his three-hour hostage ordeal. Some years ago he was a popular member of staff in the wine department, and the tale is still told of the day a certain dowager duchess, feeling she was not receiving the attention she deserved, demanded to speak to the manager. "I want to complain to you about that boy," she boomed. "Oh you mean Stormont," came the reply. "Stormont? Mungo Stormont?" said the duchess. "Good grief, he's my godson."*

Cross purposes

Fashion designer Katharine Hamnett, who once arrived at a Downing Street reception in a T-shirt with the slogan "58 per cent don't want Pershing", has caused a rumpus with another. It is emblazoned with the word "Ceasefire" and the Red Cross emblem, with the announcement that all profits from its sale will go to Red Cross funds.

The offer has been rejected. "The use of our emblem is strictly controlled," says the Red Cross. "According to the Geneva Convention statutes of 1911, it isn't lawful to use the cross for purposes of trade without the authority of the Ministry of Defence," — even, it seems, if the intention is to raise funds for the organisation.

Hamnett has now changed the wording to read: "All proceeds from the sale of this T-shirt will go to a charity." But which one? She is not saying. Should she still have the Red Cross in mind, it will happily accept: "It's just the use of our emblem we are worried about."



Shore thing

Labour's civil war is about to erupt again in London's East End. To Neil Kinnock's relief, most MPs have safely negotiated reselection, but a handful of troublesome cases remain. Among them is former cabinet minister Peter Shore in Bethnal Green and Stepney, who is being challenged by Phil Maxwell, left-wing Labour leader on Tower Hamlets council.

"People in the constituency were angered to see Peter Shore on television arguing that East Enders support troops fighting in the Gulf," says Maxwell, who is fighting on a stop-the-war ticket. "How does he know? He has not consulted anyone and does not even live in the East End."

Shore, who has been an MP for 26 years and fought off a previous reselection challenge, says: "I do not think Philip Maxwell is a serious opponent. I expect still to be here come the next election."

He surely will be. Even if Shore is rejected by his local party, Maxwell's hard-left policies make it certain that Labour's national executive will reject his candidacy.

Good turn, bad turn

As the Bishop of Lewes, the Right Rev Peter Ball, drove along a country road recently, a car approaching him hit the verge, flew over a hedge, and landed on its side. The bishop stopped and shone his headlights on the wreckage, from which a voice called: "Can you get something to break a window so that I can get out."

The bishop went to his car and returned with his crook, by which time the driver had managed to free himself. "There I was in my monastic grey robe, walking across the road with my crook. I must have looked quite a dramatic sight with the car headlights shining behind me," says the bishop. "When the driver saw me he turned totally white." More shaken by this celestial apparition than by his accident, the driver managed to whisper: "Where am I and who are you?"

"I think he was quite convinced he was in heaven," says the bishop. "I didn't dare tell him my name was Peter. That might have finished him off completely."

Get up and go out

Enough of this gloom and doom. The time has come to stand up to the over-sensitive killjoys who think the Gulf war means that nobody at home should have any fun, according to the Cheer Up London Committee, to be launched today.

Those appealing to the second world war "We never close" spirit of the Windmill theatre include Lord Spencer-Churchill, Egon Ronay and the Roux brothers. "We want to encourage people to return to the habit of going out and having fun during a difficult period," says a spokeswoman for the committee, which intends producing a regular bulletin of restaurant, hotel and theatre discounts on offer because of the absence of terrified Americans.

هكذا من الاعلام

IMAGES OF WAR

"Ve must fight to ze last trop of our plood," said the colonel thumping the dinner table, "ve must be villing to die for our Emperor and zen all vill be vell." . . . There was a sudden silence. "Mamma, what sweets are we going to have?" asked Natasha.

From Tolstoy's juxtaposition of war and peace to Wednesday's tragedy at Amiriya, the inability to imagine war contrasts with the bloody, mangled relics of human beings. Soldiers may use euphemisms, excuses, jargon to purify their work. They may claim their goal is territorial or economic or political. Humanitarian factors may distort tactics, ban certain weapons and lessen public revulsion at civilian deaths. But the finest technology, the best intelligence cannot alter war's essence: at the end of each day is a pile of corpses, just as in 1914, 1812 or 490 BC.

Those deciding on war should never forget this reality. A virtue of modern communication is that it makes the sanitisation of war harder to achieve. After the first "televised" war, in Vietnam, some concluded that no modern democracy would ever fight again, in however just a cause. The Falklands and now the Gulf show this is not true. But Vietnam did teach that no modern democracy was likely to go to war unless convinced of its rightness and unless allowed to monitor its conduct. It was not war that undermined American resolve in Vietnam, but its duration, the manner in which it was fought and the improbability of victory.

Censorship, in the form of guidance, warning and self-discipline, has a role in any conflict. No military machine can reveal all its secrets, and can reveal some only by ensuring others remain secret. But if censorship degenerates into deceit and fabrication, into the concealment of war's nature, it will undermine public support and engender opposition.

Such was the horror at Amiriya that censorship broke down on all sides. To the Iraqis, what happened was so blatantly useful to their cause that the media were allowed to report unguardedly. Given the lack of free reporting from Baghdad, this "lifting" of censorship was more a comment on previous reports than an aid to understanding. Good journalism needs free investigation and communication over time so that readers can set reports in context. One undoctored story does not equal the end of censorship. Above all, there is no media freedom to record any of the emotive images of pain, grief and suffering which must have occurred, unwitnessed, in Kuwait. The images of horror therefore count on one side of the scales only.

For the Americans, faced (at very least) with a glaring failure of targeting intelligence before the Amiriya bombing, the terminology of war collapsed on Wednesday. Words such as "comfortable" and "satisfied" fell from the lips of spokesmen apparently inured to war's horror. Initially even the ultimate fallacy was implied — that because President Saddam Hussein kills innocent civilians, the allies can be forgiven Amiriya.

In the absence of Iraqi censorship some media organisations imposed their own on Wednesday's footage, on grounds not of balance but of taste, feeling that the reality of what war does to a human frame was too horrible to share with the public. None the less there were further calls from politicians on both sides of the Atlantic, such as those addressed to ITN and the BBC in the House of Commons yesterday, to suppress pictures and other news material from Iraq. The partiality of such material damages the war effort, say the politicians; in the age of terrorism, all wars are total wars and require total vigilance.

These calls should be resisted. Certainly the continuous repetition on "live" news programmes of vivid pictures can magnify both the glamour and the horror of war. There is thus a heavy responsibility on news handlers to check, correct and present material without exaggeration and with appropriate caveats. But concealment is hopeless. Today, images of war are flashed round the globe in seconds, to be distorted, exploited, debated, challenged. The only antidote to false information is accurate information, not less information. Lies can only be defeated by a relentless search for truth, not by silence.

BACKDOOR GLASNOST

To be denounced by *Pravda* has long been an honour. To be vilified for sending medical aid to the Baltic states, as the Bush administration was yesterday, is a double distinction. This "violation of the sovereignty of the USSR" was Washington's low-key response last week to the Soviet government's attacks on democracy in Lithuania and Latvia.

Attempts by western governments to bypass the central Soviet authorities in order to help the republics in their battle against Moscow are fraught with risk. How far can the republics be supported before that support becomes "unwarranted interference" in the Union's internal affairs? How far does such support undermine Mikhail Gorbachev's position? At what point does formal assistance to a republic become "recognition", and thus risk an open break with the regime in Moscow?

The answer is that, while diplomats and politicians may feel they alone should be left to answer these questions, private citizens and institutions may see things differently. Uncertainty about the future of self-determination for the republics has prevailed in the Soviet Union since at least last November. Many in the West have wanted to push the process of self-determination, even though formal diplomacy feels constrained from intervening too publicly in this sensitive relationship.

In the liberation of Eastern Europe, individuals and private bodies established conduits through which information, books, travel and other forms of cultural exchange could pass. The British Council, champion of such "alternative diplomacy", was also active. The Foreign Office even has its modest "know-how" fund. The Baltic states are among the areas of the Soviet Union in which such contacts are becoming regular occurrences. Any attempt by the KGB to cut them off should be condemned in the West.

The success of such private links, whose impact on morale is hard to imagine in comfortable Western Europe, must have been thrown in doubt by this week's grotesque attempt by the Soviet prime minister, Valentin Pavlov, to create a climate of xenophobia. Whatever lies behind Mr Pavlov's tale of a western-backed conspiracy to undermine the rouble — it has led to the resignation of Boris Yeltsin's aide Gennady Filshin — the response of Western banks and other investors was one of understandable alarm.

The future of glasnost will be further tested by the planned visit in April of a delegation of Christian, Jewish and Muslim representatives, under the aegis of the Bishop of Oxford, to the cities of Baku, Lvov and Moscow. Besides the Russian Orthodox patriarchate, which is close to the Soviet state, the visiting clergy and laymen hope to meet religious communities which are barely tolerated by the Soviet authorites, such as the Ukrainian Catholic and Orthodox churches, the Baptists and others.

The gathering could yet be hindered by the denial of visas. Later this year the Kremlin hopes to play host to a human rights conference under the auspices of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe. Such a conference should be made hostage to Soviet good behaviour in the meantime.

If even those who wish to help the Soviet economy are to be frightened off, the outlook must be gloomy for those who have little to offer but moral support for the opposition. That leaves government-to-government aid. Experience suggests that aid which is not distributed directly to its intended recipients will never reach them. The Latvian foreign minister, Janis Jurkans, recently suggested that little of the western help sent to relieve the Armenian earthquake was ever received by the survivors. This is outrageous. To bypass the corrupt Soviet bureaucracy in future, in cultural as well as economic relations, is a dictate not only of principle but also of common sense.

NO SMOKE WITHOUT FUSS

In 1940s films the prevailing colour was pale grey. Any romantic male or female was likely to be wreathed in clouds of smoke. Smoking was considered sophisticated, and tobacco companies were glad of the publicity. Now, according to a Valentine's Day survey published yesterday, most Britons think the reverse. More than 70 per cent prefer a non-smoker for a partner. That London Transport was able yesterday to institute a ban on smoking on its buses with barely a protest cough from passengers is testament to this attitudinal change.

Some have always disliked the smell of other's smoke, but until recently they dared not complain for fear of an aggressive response. Some used not to mind sitting in smoke-filled rooms, but have now become sensitised to it by the threat to their health. The theory that passive smoking was dangerous used to be contentious; now there is a scientific near-consensus, disagreement confined mainly to the scale of danger.

A 17-year survey of nearly 8,000 people in Glasgow, published in 1989, found that non-smokers who live with smokers are more than twice as likely to die of lung cancer than those who live with non-smokers. An earlier independent study commissioned by the government put the increased risk of lung cancer from passive smoking at anything up to 30 per cent. The smoke of a burning cigarette tip is even more noxious than that which is inhaled by the smoker.

Before such dangers were discovered, the libertarian argument was finely balanced. The smoker could set his pleasure from smoking against the non-smoker's pleasure in breathing smoke-free air. The only health risk was the smoker's. Notwithstanding the cost to the National Health Service of treating smokers, most agreed that they had every right to take that risk. As for legal intervention, the nanny state had gone far enough in restricting cigarette advertising and shouting warnings from every packet.

This is no longer enough — the rights of non-smokers are now regarded as predominant. Some tolerance is still in order: nicotine is the most physically addictive of widely-consumed narcotics and its sufferers deserve a modicum of sympathy. British Rail is right to reserve some smoking compartments on long-distance trains. Passengers can choose whether or not to sit with smokers. Aeroplanes with proper air conditioning are right to allow smokers their own section; it would be unreasonable to expect them to abstain on a long-haul flight. But in a small, poorly-ventilated public area, such as the top deck of a bus, a ban on smoking is hardly a draconian infringement of liberty. Since yesterday, London Town has become just a little less foggy.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Disagreements over interest rates and sterling levels

From Mr K. Skeoch and Mr G. Dennis

Sir, The six economists who called (February 13) for a cut in interest rates and a "sharp" depreciation of sterling must be delighted that the UK authorities saw fit to acquiesce in their first demand so promptly (report, February 14). That was, however, the uncontroversial part; it is plain for all to see that significantly lower interest rates are essential in the UK to mitigate the current recession.

We must hope, however, that the authorities ignore the second, and much more questionable, piece of advice from Professor Walters and co. The government has made a commitment to the discipline of ERM (exchange-rate mechanism) membership, which will reap rewards in terms of lower inflation. This will take time (witness the French experience) and may, unfortunately, involve output losses on the way. Nevertheless, to devalue sterling at the first sign of trouble in the domestic economy would increase inflationary pressures again and run the risk of repeating the French errors of 1981-3.

Sterling is not over-valued at a central ERM rate of DM2.95; after all, UK exports (ex-erratics) did rise in real terms by 6.5 per cent in 1990. In truth, this central rate represents a fair value that nicely balances the need to bring inflation down with some help for the export sector. Moreover, to bring the undoubted over-valuation of sterling against the dollar into this argument is a total red herring.

All European currencies are over-valued against the dollar: this is not a problem of strong sterling but of a weak dollar. This situation requires, if anything, action at the international level. To use UK monetary policy alone to deal with the under-valuation of the dollar would be patently absurd.

While the six economists' call for lower interest rates was justified, their secondary call for a depreciation of sterling could easily have the perverse effect of driving interest rates back up again; as a piece of advice it should be dismissed.

Yours etc.,
KEITH SKEOCH
(Chief Economist),
GEOFFREY DENNIS
(Chief International Economist),
James Capel and Co.,
James Capel House, PO Box 551,
6 Bevis Marks, EC3.

From Mr John Stevens, MEP for Thames Valley (European Democrat (Conservative))

Sir, Professor Tim Congdon and his five erstwhile monetarist colleagues should be aware more than most of the risk for economists making solemn statements on government policy in your columns.

The former advocates of sound money are now proposing devaluation at a time when we still face an underlying inflation rate of some 7.5 per cent. The solid supporters of the intense squeeze of 1979-81 are now proclaiming their concern for the impact of draconian deflationary discipline on the British economy. Those who only last autumn were warning us that the inevitable consequence of our joining the ERM would be to force premature interest-rate cuts are now urging just that.

Sterling is not over-valued against the Deutschmark. The dollar is substantially undervalued, because of the US authorities' recent aggressive monetary easing in response to a banking crisis, in part precipitated by unsound financial market deregulation. The failure to appreciate that financial market deregulation can fatally flaw monetary aggregates as yardsticks of inflationary pressure in the economy is one of the main reasons the UK now suffers the present unacceptable level of price increase.

The high-profile critique of the ERM of which Professor Congdon's letter is the latest expression is not economic at all but political. It derives from a general ideological objection to European monetary integration. But it has specific and immediate economic effects. For by undermining international confidence in the government's commitment to the current ERM band it has rendered more difficult a reduction in interest rates. These will be able to fall furthest when international markets really believe that we are sticking to the strategy we have set.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN STEVENS,
15 St James's Place, SW1.
February 13.

From Mr Peter J. Kleeman

Sir, Professor Congdon and his colleagues are correct in calling for urgently needed interest-rate cuts and of course are fully aware that political realities preclude any withdrawal from the ERM.

Because the economic situation is so serious, tinkering with rates would not be sufficient and it is to be hoped that today's modest reduction is the beginning of a new trend.

By the end of this year inflation rates both in Germany and the UK should be around 5 per cent. The government and financial markets therefore need to determine the correct interest-rate premium to keep sterling within its ERM bands.

Before today's cut the differential *for three months' money was in* excess of 4½ per cent. As the two countries' inflation rates converge and with sterling bound by the ERM disciplines this premium could be considerably reduced, allowing UK rates to fall to, say, 11 per cent by the end of the year.

Yours faithfully,
P. J. KLEEMAN (Chairman),
Allside Asset Management Co.,
7 Old Park Lane, W1.
February 13.

From Mr Earle de B. Bloomfield

Sir, Isn't it amazing how British, or more correctly English, industry can, without wincing, blame all its woes and failures on the government — each and every government?

Not long ago it was the workers who were also blamed for most troubles. The Japanese have now shown that British workers are amongst the finest anywhere, given proper training, tooling and management.

Until English industry learns to stop feeling sorry for itself and making excuses for its own gross inefficiency, contempt for customer service and fear of the future, the economy will never amount to anything more than a pitiful ongoing struggle.

Yours truly,
E. de B. BLOOMFIELD,
Kestorway, Chagford,
Newton Abbot,
Devon.
February 13.

From Professor Michael Artis and others

Sir, In order to redress the effects of Britain's entry into the ERM at too high an exchange rate some devaluation may be in order. However, this proposal fails to take account of Britain's fundamental problem: our inability to sustain acceptable levels of inflation without excessive unemployment. Indeed any devaluation will exacerbate our inflation problems and undermine Britain's international credibility.

The first priority must be to discourage pay leap-frogging and to facilitate a rapid disinflation. This can best be done through efforts to achieve consensus about a reasonable going rate and more coordination of the level of pay offers among employers, as in Germany and other more successful economies.

In addition it will be important to prevent the build-up of long-term unemployment. Every unemployed person should be offered a job (permanent or temporary) or training within a year of becoming unemployed.

Yours faithfully,
M. J. ARTIS
(Manchester University),
WILLIAM BROWN (Cambridge),
RICHARD LAYARD (LSE),
STEVE NICKELL (Oxford),
c/o Campaign for Work,
Annexe B, Tottenham Town Hall,
Town Hall Approach Road, N15.
February 14.

Bishop's case in cathedral enquiry

From the Legal Secretary to the Bishop of Lincoln

Sir, Mr John Snell (February 9) complains of the "foolish handling" of the affairs of Lincoln Cathedral and regrets that the bishop "chose to chair his own formal visitation instead of appointing a fellow bishop or canon lawyer".

In January 1990 the bishop received a letter from the chapter clerk stating in general terms that the dean and residentiary canons had resolved to refer their difficulties to him as visitor of the cathedral. It later became clear to him that he could not act in a purely pastoral manner and in March 1990 he enquired whether he was being asked to conduct a formal visitation in accordance with the cathedral statutes with all that would entail.

The reply was in the affirmative and this correspondence is referred to in the admonition and award which Mr Snell mentions and which has been made public.

The statutes provide that the bishop *may* carry out a visitation of his own volition whenever he wishes and that he *must* hold a visitation if so requested by the dean and chapter. There is no provision in the statutes for him to conduct a visitation otherwise than in person though on this occasion the bishop appointed as one of the assessors assisting him his vicar-general, an ecclesiastical lawyer.

In being required to act quasi-judicially as visitor he was thereby prevented from fully exercising a pastoral role but it is not correct to say that he "disqualified himself".

Within the limitations imposed upon him by the request for a formal visitation the bishop has sought to deal pastorally so far as he has been able with the chapter. His willingness to continue to help them was confirmed at the conclusion of the visitation admonition and award.

Mr Snell asserts that the bishop's position is untenable because "we are no further forward". However, the bishop has no direct power over the affairs of the cathedral whether as visitor or otherwise. In the visitation his powers were limited to listening to what was said, announcing his findings and making recommendations.

The implementation of those recommendations and the general management of the cathedral's affairs are the responsibility of the dean and the residentiary canons and the bishop cannot be held accountable for any continuing difficulties within the chapter.

Yours faithfully,
DEREK M. WELLMAN,
Lincoln Diocesan Registry,
28 West Parade, Lincoln.
February 12.

A fishy business

From the Secretary of State for Health

Sir, Bernard Levin (February 14) chides me for the Food Hygiene (Amendment) Regulations 1990 which, he says, will stop smoked salmon being sent through the post when they come into force on April 1.

First, I think it is a bit thick to judge my degree of etiolation on the basis of regulations laid before Parliament by my clearly non-etiolated predecessor, but I let that pass. As to what the regulation will or will not do, let us see.

Meanwhile, since I have a brother whose admirable cheese presently travels via the post, and a first cousin whose delectable smoked sea trout reaches me by the same route, I have, sadly, had to ask one of the other ministers here to deal with the issue. Otherwise, if it were to come out the way Mr Levin wants, it will not be etiolation I will be accused of.

On one point, however, Mr Levin is completely correct. In common with all my colleagues, on both sides of the House, it is true that I have never once in my life been drunk.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM WALDEGRAVE,
Department of Health,
Richmond House,
79 Whitehall, SW1.
February 14.

Squaring speeds

From Mr R. M. Worcester

Sir, Your leader ("Squaring speeds", February 8) alleges that "most (drivers) seem happy to agree with the police that the legal speed limit for cars on a motorway should be raised by 10 mph". The recent Lex report on motoring, to which you referred in a leader on January 24, showed that the majority of the British public (52 per cent) are of the view that the speed limit should not be broken except in exceptional circumstances, while a third (32 per cent) believe that "the speed limit is usually set below the safe level and it is acceptable to exceed it (eg., by 10 mph)".

A frightening 13 per cent are of the view that "speed limits don't mean much on most roads and drivers should judge for themselves what speed is acceptable on any stretch of road". They are no doubt those whom we see whizzing by when we are on the motorway.

The leader also commends "sleeping policemen" which, according to the Lex survey, are supported by more drivers than any other suggested means for controlling traffic in residential areas.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT M. WORCESTER
(Chairman),
Market & Opinion Research
International Ltd,
32 Old Queen Street, SW1.
February 8.

Top pay awards

From the General Secretary of the Association of First Division Civil Servants

Sir, In your leading article of February 2, 1991, you refer to pay reviews such as those recently awarded to senior civil servants, judges, consultants, nurses, doctors and soldiers, as "always inflationary". Yet on October 22, 1990, also in a leading article, you said that these same arrangements had been "reasonably successful in holding down the pay of public employees". The fact is that the mechanisms of pay review bodies are well tested, reliable and most importantly independent. They may also have the virtue on occasions of being consistent in their approach.

In October 1990 you said, "senior civil servants, whose cause is not popular, are paid too little". In February, now that a pay increase at about the current inflation (although well within the inflation of the last year) is awarded you write only of the "grotesque contrast" with government advocacy for private sector pay.

In October, you told the nation that "awards from review bodies . . . are for ever being rephased to keep down the cost to the exchequer". You went on, "the illusion of restraint is achieved, but only at a cost to the morale of those involved and to the integrity of ministerial conjurers. This is no way to run a railroad, or a post office, or a central government".

Yet in February you complain that the staging is a mere "excuse" for paying the full award at all, and you question whether the rises are the "best form of counter-cyclical pump-priming to boost the Treasury's own pay packet".

In October you said, "only the naive believe in a perfect policy for the public sector". Three short months later you appear to have embraced that naivety and thrown your own balanced judgment overboard.

In October you said, "ministers should keep negotiations at arms' length. Those who cannot keep their hands off invariably end up with burnt fingers". By February you suggest that ministers should have interfered even more to undermine the recommendations of the independent review bodies.

The nation may well wonder which to believe — the October judgment that senior civil servants are paid too little, or the February one that awards about the level of inflation "are an inflationary disgrace".

One is tempted to reflect that this is "no way to run a railroad, or a post office, or a central government" — or a national newspaper!

Yours sincerely,
ELIZABETH SYMONS,
General Secretary,
The Association of First
Division Civil Servants,
2 Caxton Street, SW1.
February 5.

After the poll tax

From Sir Rhodes Boyson, MP for Brent North (Conservative)

Sir, Your leader "After the poll tax: 2" of February 8 is not entirely fair to those of us on the Conservative benches in the House of Commons who advocate that school education should be directly funded by central government and removed from local government control.

The record of British schooling over recent years under local government control has been far from illustrious and has fallen behind the standards of our industrial competitors. Some of us believe that central funding per head of pupils, as under the grant-maintained schools, would put schools under parental control and the parents would insist on higher standards. This presumably is what happens in the thriving independent school sector.

From my experience, given a choice between control by parents and control by local and national school inspectors, I would opt for the former on every occasion. If local government is to regain its former respect then it should be limited to the areas which are purely local, and these should be funded entirely by a local tax — preferably the community charge — at half its present level.

Local and national government will be at each others' throats until their funding is entirely separated. The removal of education from local government would achieve this, and local councils could then concentrate on the condition of local roads and pavements, street lighting, parks, libraries, refuse removal . . . by direct or indirect services and we could have smaller local councils more in touch with their grass roots.

Thus the transfer of educational funding to central government offers three distinct advantages: the cutting of the level of the community charge by almost half, the raising of school standards through parental choice and pressure, and the ending of the increasing tension between local and national government because of their overlap both in functions and in monetary matters.

I have the honour to remain your obedient servant,
RHODES BOYSON,
House of Commons.
February 11.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071 782 5046).

Americans abroad

From Dr Angus Campbell

Sir, Bernard Levin ("If it's the Gulf it must be Mexico", February 4) was right about the US geographical perspective on "Yerp" (letters, February 8). During my first few months as a Fulbright scholar at Yale in 1958 I came gradually and painfully to realise that the UK was just a little dot on the far north-eastern corner of the map, and that everything that mattered happened in or revolved around New York and Washington.

At first our expatriate group defended ourselves by frequent informal meetings to denigrate most things American, but we soon adjusted to our status as interesting foreigners with "cute" accents, temporarily adopted the Americo-centric view of the world, and thoroughly enjoyed the generous hospitality of God's Own Country.

Yours faithfully,
ANGUS CAMPBELL,
Edenfield Centre, Prestwich Hospital,
Bury New Road, Prestwich,
Manchester 25.
February 11.

Dinner for three

From Mr Hugh Cockerell

Sir, Whatever Ho Chi Minh was doing at the Carlton Hotel on August 4, 1914, it is highly unlikely that he was preparing sprouts for the dinners of Winston Churchill and David Lloyd George as Mr Martin Gilbert (February 11) suggests. Brussels sprouts would certainly have been out of season.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH COCKERELL,
22 Mapesbury Road, NW2.
February 11.

Attack at No 10

From Mr F. J. Richard Piggott

Sir, Dr Carmen Blacker (February 13) interestingly links the cherry tree at No 10 and the legend that in Japan trees nobly give their lives to save the occupants of adjacent houses. The ginkgo tree (*Ginkgo biloba*) features prominently in the legend. Its fleshy leaves are purported to release sufficient moisture during a fire to enable the occupants of the neighbouring house to escape.

My great grandfather's house in Tokyo was thus saved from the fire following the great earthquake of 1923 and I and my family have for four generations always planted a ginkgo beside our homes. None of these homes has ever been razed by fire — but in truth none has ever been the subject of a mortar attack.

Yours faithfully,
F. J. R. PIGGOTT,
Army and Navy Club,
Pall Mall, SW1.
February 14.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 14: The Queen held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace this morning.

The Duke of Edinburgh this afternoon visited the Ministry of Defence, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1.

His Royal Highness, Patron, the Industrial Society, attended a dinner in support of the Peter Runge Appeal, at Carlton House Terrace.

Lieutenant-Commander Malcolm Sillars, RN, was in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 14: The Duchess of York today carried out engagements in Derby and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Derbyshire (Colonel Peter Hilton).

Her Royal Highness visited Sinfin Community School.

The Duchess of York later attended a reception at the Oast House Hotel on behalf of the Royal National Institute for the Blind's 'Looking Glass Appeal'.

This afternoon Her Royal Highness visited the Derby Children's Hospital.

The Duchess of York later visited the Access Centre in The Queen's Hall.

Finally Her Royal Highness visited the Derby Museum and Art Gallery and viewed an exhibition of paintings by Joseph Wright.

Mrs John Spooner and Captain Alexander Baillie-Hamilton were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
February 14: The Prince of Wales received the Lord Ennals at St James's Palace.

His Royal Highness received the Right Hon Lynda Chalker, MP, (Minister for Overseas Development) at St James's Palace.

The Prince of Wales, Patron, Marylebone Centre Trust, received Dr Patrick Pietroni at St James's Palace.

His Royal Highness gave a lunch for the Secretary of State for the Home Department (the Right Hon Kenneth Baker, MP) at Kensington Palace.

The Princess of Wales received Mr Michael Watson, Mr Geoffrey Henning and Mr Colin Tweedy of Crusaid at Kensington Palace.

KENSINGTON PALACE
The Duchess of Gloucester this evening attended a Concert in aid of the Dyslexia Institute at Gray's Inn Hall, 5 South Square, London WC1.

Mrs Euan McCorquodale was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
February 14: The Duke of Kent, Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England, today attended a Rulers Lunch at Freemasons' Hall, 30 Great Queen Street, London WC2.

Commander Roger Walker was in attendance.

His Royal Highness, Patron, this afternoon visited the National Army Museum, Royal Hospital Road, London SW3.

Captain the Hon Christopher Knollys was in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent, Colonel-in-Chief of the Army Catering Corps, this morning visited families of personnel serving in the Gulf at the Corps' Headquarters, Aldershot, Hampshire.

Mrs Peter Troughton was in attendance.

Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh will visit the North of the Tyne gymnastics centre, Benfield Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, at 9.55; will open the Newcastle Business Park at 10.50; and, as Captain General of the Royal Marines, will visit Royal Marines Reserve Tyne HQ, Quayside, at 1.40.

The Duke of Kent, as President of the Royal Institution will attend a lecture at Albemarle Street at 8.45.

Birthdays today

Sir Harold Beeley, diplomat, 82; Sir William Bentley, diplomat, 64; Miss Claire Bloom, actress, 60; Sir Stephen Brown, former chairman, Stone-Platt Industries, 85; Mr Dan Crompton, chief constable, Nottinghamshire, 50; Sir Arthur de la Mare, diplomat, 77; Mr Justice Drake, 68; Mr Frank Dunlop, director, Edinburgh International Festival, 64; the Countess of Dysart, 77; Mr Paul Ferris, author, 62; Mr Gerald Harper, actor and broadcaster, 62; the Earl of Jersey, 81; Miss Diana Jones, jockey, 41; the Earl of Mar and Kellie, 70; Sir Richard O'Brien, former chairman, Manpower Services Commission, 71; Mr C.F. Payne, former chief constable, Cleveland, 61; Mr Tim Powell, former chairman, Massey-Ferguson, 79; Mr W.K. Reid, the Ombudsman, 60; Miss Jane Seymour, actress, 40; Miss Clare Short, MP, 45; Sir Adrian Swire, chairman, John Swire and Sons, 59; Sir George Taylor, botanist, 87; Mr Justice Ward, 53; the Right Rev R.W. Woods, former Bishop of Worcester, 77.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Philipp Melanchthon, theologian, Bretton, Germany, 1497; Galileo Galilei, mathematician and astronomer, Pisa, 1564; Jeremy Bentham, Utilitarian philosopher, London, 1748; Alfred North Whitehead, philosopher, Ramsgate, 1861; Sir Bannister Fletcher, architect and architectural historian, London, 1866; Sir Ernest Shackleton, Antarctic explorer, Kilkee, Co Clare, 1874.

DEATHS: Jan Swammerdam, entomologist, Amsterdam, 1680; Gotthold Lessing, dramatist, Braunschweig, Germany, 1781; Henry ('Orator') Hunt, political reformer, Alresford, Hants, 1835; Mikhail Glinka, composer, Berlin, 1857; Nicholas Wiseman, cardinal, first archbishop of Westminster 1850-65, London, 1865; Lew Wallace, American Civil War general, author of *Ben Hur*, Crawfordsville, Indiana, 1905; Herbert Henry Asquith, 1st Earl of Oxford and Asquith, prime minister 1908-16, Sutton Courtenay, Berks, 1928; Richard Feynman, physicist, Nobel laureate 1965, 1988.

Singapore surrendered to the Japanese army, 1942.

Church news

Appointments:
The Rev Dr Michael J Higgins, Rector, Preston, diocese Blackburn, is to be Dean of Ely, succeeding the Very Rev William J Patterson, who resigned on September 22, 1990.

The Rev Canon Timothy J Stevens, Bishop's Urban Officer, diocese Chelmsford, is to be Archdeacon of West Ham, same diocese, succeeding the Rt Rev Roger Sainsbury, now Bishop of Barking.

Other appointments:
The Rev Gerald R Addington, Vicar, Pakenham, Norton and Tostock, diocese St Edmundsbury and Ipswich: to be also Diocesan Warden of Readers, same diocese.

The Rev A Peter Bannister, Vicar, Wembdon, diocese Bath and Wells: to be Vicar, Taunton St James, same diocese.

The Rev Canon John V Bean, retired: to be Canon Emeritus of Portsmouth Cathedral, diocese Portsmouth.

The Rev Paul Bilton, Rector, Mablethorpe w Trusthorpe, diocese Lincoln: to be Vicar, Lidget Green, diocese Bradford.

The Rev Michael O Blackman, Team Vicar, East Ham, St Mary Magdalene, diocese Chelmsford: to be Rector, St Peter, diocese Barbados.

The Rev Preb Roger Bould, Rector and Rural Dean of Cheadle, and Prebendary of Lichfield Cathedral, diocese Lichfield: to be Assistant to the Bishop of Wolverhampton, same diocese.

The Rev Sue Burnett, Parish Deacon, Christ Church, East Greenwich, diocese Southwark: to be Paris Deacon, St Michael's and All Saints, Sydenham, with special responsibility for St Michael's, same diocese.

The Rev C Raymond Chudley, Vicar, Milton Abbot, Dunterton, Lamberton, diocese Exeter: to be Team Vicar, Wickford and Runwell, diocese Chelmsford.

The Rev Richard Cloete, Rector, Wincanton and Penselwood, diocese Bath and Wells: to be also Secretary/Treasurer, Diocesan Hospital Chaplains' Fellowship, same diocese.

The Rev David Croad, Vicar, Bovingdon, diocese St Albans: to be Minister of the Proprietary Chapel of St John, Downshire Hill, diocese London.

The Rev Richard Davison, Team Rector, Grendon Underwood, in the Swan team, diocese Oxford: to be Vicar, Streatley w Moulsford, same diocese.

The Rev Robert D Dew, Senior Industrial Chaplain, diocese Liverpool: to be Vicar, Skelsmergh w Selside and Long Sleddale, and Bishop's Research Officer, diocese Carlisle.

The Rev Penelope M Driver, Youth Chaplain, diocese Ripon: to be also Diocesan Adviser for Women's Ministry, same diocese.

The Rev Peter R Ellmore, Assistant Curate, St Mark, North End, with responsibility for St Nicholas, diocese Portsmouth, to be Assistant Chaplain, St Mary's Hospital, Portsmouth, same diocese.

The Rev H Adrian Hallett, Vicar, Stoke Sub Hamdon, diocese Bath and Wells: to be also Rural Dean of Ilchester and Martock, same diocese.

Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy
CAPTAIN: P J Lightburn – Sultan 21.6.91
SURGEON CAPTAIN: J M Besley – MOD London in rank of Surg Cdre 19.2.91
SURGEON CAPTAIN (D): E J Grant – MOD London 2.4.91. R S Hambly – Staff of CINCNAVHOME 22.4.91.
COMMANDER: N T Brown – Manadon 20.7.91
SURGEON COMMANDER: S J Ryder – Staff of FOSNI 16.7.91

The Army
BRIGADIERS: J M Lucken – To HQ UKLF, 11.2.91; I N Osborne – To be Comdt ASMT, 14.2.91.
COLONELS: A P H Parsons – To NATO Def Coll, 12.2.91. M I Laurie – To HQ BAOR/HQ BRSC, 11.2.91.
LIEUTENANT COLONELS: R A Bartle RAEC – To RMCS Shrivenham, 11.2.91; F A B Clement RA – To be Svc Attache HELSINKI, 11.2.91; T M A Daly DERR – To MOD, 11.2.91; A C Farmer RE – To be CO 73 Engr Regt, 11.2.91; A R Griffin REME – To REME Offrs School, 11.2.91; C W Haskell RE – To HQ 1 (BR) Corps, 11.2.91; J A J Nelson RMP – To be CO SIB BAOR, 11.2.91; I C Shuker R Signals – To SHAPE Staff, 11.2.91. I M D L Weston RHG/D – To HQ LONDIST, 11.2.91; N C Jackson R Signals – To be CO 9 Sig Regt, 14.2.91.

Royal Air Force
WING COMMANDER: P Darbyshire – To RAFC Cranwell. R W White – To RAF Wyton Raynham: P J Lewis – To RAF Coningsby: R D Toy – To SCS Staff Henlow; C B Montague – To BDS Washington. M Mitchell – To HQ 2 ATAF; M L Smith – To MOD CVC; K W I Fould – To RAF Gutersloh; P A Smith – To RAF Boscombe Down; G W House – To RAF Honington.

City Women's Network

City Women's Network, the London-based professional women's networking club, is holding a Prospective Members' Drinks Party on Thursday, February 28, from 6.30pm to 8.30pm, at Ashley's Restaurant, 10 Copthall Avenue, EC2. Enquiries are most welcomed. Contact Leslie Mitchell on 071-223 0425 before February 22 for further details.

John Edward Scobie

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of John Edward Scobie, founder of A1 Paper Plc will be held in St Phillips Cathedral, Colmore Row, Birmingham, on Wednesday, March 13, at 7.00 pm.

Dinner

Hunterian Society
Professor Christopher Wastell, President of the Hunterian Society, presided at the annual dinner held last night at the Savoy Hotel to mark the anniversary of the birth of John Hunter. Lord Jenkins of Hillhead and the Hon Mrs Margaret Jay were the principal guests and speakers.

Appointments

Mr Charles E. Courtney, Mr Gilbert Kirkman, and Mrs Jill Robinson-Shaw, to be members of the Fulbright Commission.

Professor Peter Day to be director of the Royal Institution and of the Davy Faraday Research Laboratory from Ocytober 1, 1991.

OBITUARIES

RON PICKERING

Ron Pickering, OBE, BBC sports commentator and athletics coach, died on February 13 aged 60. He had undergone a multiple heart bypass operation just before Christmas and seemed to be on the road to recovery. He was born on May 4, 1930.

TO THE millions who knew him through his television commentaries, Ron Pickering's was the voice which brought an inimitable blend of excitement and knowledge to the BBC's coverage of athletics meetings all over the world. To both armchair viewers at home and competitors at trackside scarcely any gathering of athletes – whether Olympic Games or domestic indoor competition – seemed complete without the informed intelligence and white-hot enthusiasm of Pickering in attendance. Within the sporting world, however, he will be as well remembered as a tireless campaigner against the abuse of drugs in sport, as a first-class coach who was associated with the successes of the Welsh long-jumper Lynn Davies at the very highest levels, and for his altruistic and wise work for Haringey Athletics club, of which he was president.

Ronald James Pickering was born and bred in Hackney, East London was an area with which he was to retain close links all his life, and the energetic support he gave to the scheme to create the London Arena from a vast disused banana warehouse in the Isle of Dogs was characteristic of his concern for sport's social function. After attending Stratford Grammar School he did his national service in the army in the King's Own Regiment where after a modest career as a decathlete he became a useful, if not outstanding, field event athlete. After demobilisation he took a physical education course at Carnegie College of Physical Education, Leeds, and taught for several years at his old school in Stratford and in Wanstead.

He became a protege of England's leading coach, Geoff Dyson, an apprenticeship which gave great impetus to his own coaching career. In 1960, still aged only 30, he was appointed Wales's national athletics coach. This began a particularly fulfilling period in his professional life, which was remarkable for the success of the Welsh long jump champion Lynn Davies, whom Pickering first met and identified as a talent when Davies was still at school. At that point Davies was a triple jumper, but Pickering turned him into a long jumper. The partnership between coach and athlete was crowned by Davies's winning the long jump gold medal for Great Britain at the Olympic Games in Tokyo in 1964, but he also won a gold in the European championships and, for Wales, at the 1966 Commonwealth Games in Kingston, Jamaica. Pickering's inspirational presence and hard work in touring clubs and inculcating enthusiasm at all levels is still remembered in Wales.

In the 1960s Pickering had also begun to be interested in broadcasting, and soon became central to the BBC's coverage of a variety of sports, including gymnastics, volleyball, skiing and ski-jumping, though he will always be most closely associated with athletics, which he first covered at Olympic level for the BBC in Mexico in 1968. Indeed, Ron Pickering and David Coleman, with whom he shared commentary boxes all over the world for 25 years, may almost be said to have created athletics as a television spectacle, and their different, though complementary, styles gave television athletics coverage the shape and "feel" which has come to be the standard of today.

Pickering communicated to viewers not merely a passion for athletics, but as time went on an increasing concern for the advancement of athletes themselves as well as a deep awareness of the perils that lay in wait for them, notably from drugs. On television, at annual conferences of the Central Council for Physical Recreation, at dinners and at any other venue where a few apposite words might be called for Pickering aired his deep concern about the threat drugs represented both to the image of sport and to the health of the participants. Only last Friday he had been seen in a television debate with Ben Johnson's former coach, Charlie Francis, tackling him on these issues.

Yet in spite of his public persona in international sport, Pickering still remained deeply involved with athletics at the grass roots level. As president of the Haringey club he enjoyed involvement with the problems and career prospects of little-known athletes as much as rubbing shoulders with world-class stars. He loved sport for itself, and not merely for its capacity sometimes to transform for the better the lives of those who found fame through it. As he once wrote: "I believe that sport without its ethic of fair play would not have survived 33 weeks let alone 33 centuries." Sport for him meant all sportsmen and not merely the most celebrated ones.

Pickering was appointed OBE for his services to sport in 1986. He was married to Jean Desforges, herself a former European long jump champion and British Olympic captain, and is survived by her, by a daughter Kim and a son, Shaun, who has been a junior international and Welsh record holder at hammer, shot and discus and represented Wales at the Edinburgh Commonwealth Games in 1986.

SIR GEOFFREY GILBERTSON

Sir Geoffrey Gilbertson, CBE, campaigner for the disabled, died on February 2 aged 72. He was born on May 29, 1918.

GEOFFREY Gilbertson was a man of immense stature, over six and a half feet in height, who before the second world war achieved success through his sporting abilities, principally in rowing. He was at Durham School and in the first crew from the school ever to compete at Henley Royal Regatta in 1937. He then went to Jesus College, Cambridge, and rowed in the head of the river crew in 1939. Because of his height and the way he dwarfed the rest of the eight, he soon came to be known as "Snow White" among his rowing friends. Gilbertson served in the second world war with the 4th/7th Dragoon Guards and took part in the D-Day landings. He held the Croix de Guerre.

After the war Gilbertson joined ICI but in 1949 was stricken with polio. This left him severely disabled for the rest of his life. Initially able to walk with the aid of crutches, he had to spend his latter years entirely in a wheelchair. In spite of his severe disability, or perhaps because of it, he championed the cause of disabled people and initiated a national scheme to get them jobs. He was also instrumental in establishing a scheme to encourage the provision of conventional transport for disabled people instead of invalid vehicles which isolated them. Campaigning for better access to public places for the disabled, he became a member of the National Advisory Council for the Employment of Disabled People from

1971 to 1980 and was chairman from 1974 to 1980. For his services to the disabled he was knighted in 1981.

Gilbertson was with ICI from 1946 till his retirement in 1973 when he was company general manager, personnel. During this time he was in constant negotiations with the trade union leaders of the day and his innate charm and humour enabled him to work closely and successfully with men such as Jack Jones and Hugh Scanlon and help to keep ICI virtually free from industrial trouble.

He was a member of the Pay Board under Sir Frank Figgures in 1973 and 1974, and was chairman of the National Economic Development Council for Shipbuilding from 1972 to 1975. He was appointed CBE in 1972.

Gilbertson will be remembered by his friends for his great sense of fun and his complete lack of any affectation; he was always quick to deflate any pretentious opinions. He was a good listener and enjoyed the company and stimulus of young people. There are many examples of his courage and determination in overcoming the restrictions imposed by his disability and he was ever ready to give encouragement to others. On one occasion he visited a young acquaintance the day after he had suffered a serious accident which had made him disabled for life. Gilbertson was able to console and inspire him by explaining how his own life had in many ways been enriched through having to develop wider interests than his hitherto mainly sporting ones and how he derived great enjoyment and satisfaction from literature and philosophy.

His greatest love was his closely knit family. He is survived by his wife, two sons and two daughters.

GYÖRGY KRASSÓ

György Krassó, former Hungarian dissident, died on February 12 aged 58. He had recently suffered a stroke. He was born on October 17, 1932.

A LEADING exponent of the democratic opposition in Hungary in the 1980s and a radical politician of the democratic transition, György Krassó, like his brother, Miklós, who died in exile in London in 1986, was a man of strong convictions. Born in Budapest, he joined the Communist party in 1946, aged 14. But by the time of the Hungarian revolution in 1956 his disillusionment with socialism was complete and he took up arms against the Stalinist regime. He was among the first who fired at the dreaded secret police units during the siege of the Budapest radio station on October 23. For his part in the armed struggle and for his clandestine activity in the aftermath of the revolution he was sentenced to ten years in prison.

At the time of the general amnesty in 1963 he was pardoned but was not allowed to continue his studies at the Karl Marx University of Economics as it was then known. At first he lived by occasional work, later as a skilled worker, and in 1976 he obtained his PhD in economics. These years of continuous police harassment left him with a deep hatred of the "soft" version of socialism.

In 1982 Krassó set up his one-man Hungarian October Press and devoted his considerable energies to the preservation of the memory of the 1956 revolution. Krassó was the first to organise a semi-public meeting to commemorate the revolution on its 25th anniversary in 1981. He was instrumental in transmitting the message of the Hungarian revolution to the generations who grew up in the 1980s.

His whole life changed when at the time of his brother's death in London he was allowed to travel to the West and was granted political asylum. In London Krassó set up the Hungarian October Information Centre. Both the BBC and Radio Free Europe greatly profited by his intimate knowledge of the Hungarian political scene and by his sure analysis of men and events during the last, hectic years of inept communist rule.

In 1989 Krassó returned to his native country and founded the ultra-radical Hungarian October party. Although in the ensuing free elections the party enjoyed limited support only, Krassó was constantly in the focus of public attention both in Hungary and abroad. Perhaps his most spectacular feat was when he and his supporters occupied the HQ ("The White House") of the Hungarian Socialist Workers party, and staged a sit-in covered by many television stations. After the elections his public appeal seemed to decline and his energies were sapped by ill-health. He died after being in a coma for a long time.

£20 million needed to stop works of art going abroad

By Sarah Jane Checkland, Art Market Correspondent

THE world's most expensive British painting and highest priced item of furniture will go abroad unless £20 million is found to save them. Both were offered to museums before going to auction, one at a half the price it eventually fetched.

Yesterday Tim Renton, the arts minister, announced that John Constable's *The Lock*, one of the artist's greatest canal paintings, had been given a stay of export until April 7 to allow a British museum to try to raise about £11 million. It was bought for £10.78 million by the Swiss-based Baron Thyssen-Bornemisza at a Sotheby's auction last November, and he now wants to take it to Lugano.

Meanwhile, the National Art-Collections Fund announced an appeal to save the Badminton Cabinet, built in 1726 and inlaid with semi-precious stones for the Duke of Beaufort's home, Badminton House. It was bought at Christie's last July by Mrs Barbara Johnson, the Johnson & Johnson baby powder heiress, for £7.8 million. It is the first national appeal to be run by the fund since it saved the Leonardo Cartoon in 1962.

The Constable, shows Flatford Lock, in Suffolk. Before going to auction, it was offered for £10 million to the National Museum of Wales, which failed to raise the funds and was criticised for not making public its attempt.

The Badminton Cabinet, on the other hand, was offered to the V&A for £4 million last spring, but turned down because the museum felt it had its hands full trying to save Canova's *The Three Graces*. The cabinet sold at auction for £7.8 million. Now that Mrs Johnson wants to export it to her home in Princeton, New Jersey, and the nation must match the new valuation by March 17.

Detail from Constable's *The Lock* which may go abroad

Simon Jervis, the new director of the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge, had announced his intentions of launching his own appeal for the cabinet, but yesterday, the National Art-Collections Fund said it would run the appeal: "This emergency calls for the fund's fullest support," it said. Sir Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the fund, said: "It would be tragic if this princely and monumental masterpiece were to be lost to Britain. The fund was founded to meet challenges like this, and posterity will not understand if we let this unsurpassed national treasure leave the country."

● The tailormade guns with which the late Sir Joseph Nickerson made his reputation as a shooting man second to none in Britain are to be sold by auction at Christie's in London on March 13. The estimate for the 40 guns is £250,000.

Sir Joseph and three other guns set an unbeaten world partridge shooting record in 1954. Sir Joseph, who died last year, left a 6,000-acre estate at Rothwell near Grimbsy.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr E.C.N. Archer
and Mlle A. Commissionat
The engagement is announced between Edward, son of Mr and Mrs E.N. Archer, of New Barnet, Hertfordshire, and Anne, daughter of Professeur and Mme Y. Commissionat, of Paris, France.

Mr A.W. Boddy
and Miss S.E. Allmond
The engagement is announced between Alexander, youngest son of Mr and Mrs William Boddy, of Dronfield, Derbyshire, and Sarah, daughter of Mr Michael Allmond, of West London, and Mrs Margaret Allmond, of Dunstable, Bedfordshire.

Mr R. Cochrane
and Miss C. Pearson
The engagement is announced between Ross, son of Mr and Mrs W. Cochrane, of Johannesburg, South Africa, and Carolyn, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Malcolm Pearson, of Todenham, Gloucestershire.

Mr P.E. Cunningham
Miss P.M.J. Bain
The engagement is announced between Paul, son of Mr and Mrs Lawrence Cunningham, of Berkley Avenue, Ilford, and Priscilla, only daughter of Mr and Mrs David Bain, of Hadleigh House, Windsor.

Mr A.G. Fuller
and Miss N.J. Taylor
The engagement is announced between Adam Garvie, eldest son of Mr and Mrs B. Fuller, of Eccup, Leeds, and Nancy Jane, only daughter of Mr J. Taylor, of Fribourg, Switzerland.

Mr K.R. Gundle
and Miss D.R. Green
The engagement is announced between Kevin, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Clifford Gundle, of London, and Johannesburg, and Deborah, daughter of Mr Martin Green and Mrs Gillian Green, of London.

Mr T.J. Houghton
and Miss M.A. Batley
The engagement is announced between Timothy, younger son of Dr and Mrs J. Houghton, of Harlow, Essex, and Melanie, only daughter of Mr and Mrs E.M. Batley, of Lee Green, London.

Mr N.C. Stallman
and Miss L.M. Macbeth
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of Mr and Mrs J.C. Stallman, of Wadhurst, East Sussex, and Lucinda, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs I.H. Macbeth, of Bromstead Common, Shropshire.

Mr J.W. Trood
and Miss P.E. Bull
The engagement is announced between James William, eldest son of Mr and Mrs J. Trood, of Linslade, Bedfordshire, and Priscilla Emily, only daughter of the Rev M.W. and Mrs Bull, of Bingley, West Yorkshire.

Mr D.J. Walker
and Miss E.V. Handfield-Jones
The engagement is announced between David, second son of Mr and Mrs James Walker, of Longwick, Buckinghamshire, and Emma, eldest daughter of the late Mr Michael Handfield-Jones and of Mrs Michael Tinne, of Hammersmith, London.

Mr M.C. Ward
and Miss H.C. Burdett
The engagement is announced between Matthew, elder son of Dr and Mrs Michael Ward, of Hill Head, Hampshire, and Helen, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Burdett, of Stoughton, West Sussex.

Marriages

Mr D. Eadie
and Mrs G. Apold
The marriage took place quietly on February 8, in Paisley, between Mr Denis Eadie, widower of Isobel, and Mrs Gillian Apold, widow of John.

Mr H.W. Morris
and Miss M.P. Reekie
The marriage took place in Chelsea, on February 9, between Mr Howard Morris and Miss Margaret Reekie.

Service dinner

London University OTC
Lieutenant-Colonel A.E. Wallington, Commanding Officer of London University Officers' Training Corps, officers and officer cadets held a dinner last night at Yeomanry House. Major R.T. Watson, second-in-command, presided and General Sir Antony Walker, Commandant of the Royal College of Defence Studies, was the guest of honour. Mr P. Holwell, principal of the university, attended.

Luncheons

Celebration of Mother's Day Luncheon
The Princess of Wales will be present at a Celebration of Mother's Day Luncheon to be held on Friday, March 8, at the Marriott Hotel, Grosvenor Square. The two benefitting charities are the National Foster Care Association and the Thomas Coram Foundation for Children. For tickets please ring the Event Office on 071-978 5565.

London Export Group
The London Export Group held its Annual Chinese New Year luncheon yesterday, at the St James Court Hotel. Professor Jack Perry was the host. The speakers were: Mr Yu Zhizhong, Minister at the Embassy of the Peoples Republic of China, Mr Graham Taylor, Manager of the England Football Team, and Mr Terence Wint, Vice- President of the China British Trade Group. Other guests included: The Earl of Bessborough, Lord Sharp of Grimsdyke, Lord Molloy, Mr Kenneth Warren, MP, and Mr R.J. Adley, MP.

Management Consultancies Association
The Right Hon Lord Young of Graffham, Chairman of Cable and Wireless, was the guest of honour at a luncheon yesterday given by the Management Consultancies Association, at the Cavalry and Guards Club. Mr George Cox, president of the association presided.

[illegible]

The angel of the Lord called to Abraham from heaven a second time. 'I make a vow by my own name - the Lord is speaking - that I will richly bless you, because you did this and did not keep back your only son from me.'
Genesis 22:15 GNB

BIRTHS

CORY-WRIGHT - On February 11th, 1991, in Stirling Royal Infirmary, to Nicki (née Richardson) and Alan, a son, Hamish William.

COSTELLO - On February 4th, at The Portland Hospital, to Micheal and Evelyn (née Fletcher), a boy, Matthew James Garland.

FENSTON - On February 8th 1991, to Katrina and John, a daughter.

HANCOCK - On February 14th in Melbourne to Dorinda (née Wolfe-Murray) and Murray, a son. Address: 54 Farraday St, Carlton, 3053 Victoria, Australia.

HENDERSON - On February 12th, to Sophie (née Wingfield Digby) and Guy, a daughter, Poppy Amelia Lucy, a sister for Robbie.

HILLS - On February 7th, to Fiona and John, a daughter, Olivia Rorie, a sister for Jessica.

HOUGH - On February 7th, to Sherri and Michael, a son, Harry Richard Marshall.

[illegible] - On December 12th 1990, in Harlow Hospital, to Elizabeth (née Cory-Wright) and Chris, a daughter, Sassi Edward Paris.

NIXON - On February 9th, at St George's, London, to Susan (née Malkin) and Blake, a little son, Christopher John.

PACKWOOD - On February 12th 1991, in Boston, Massachusetts, to Mary (née Modahl) and Richard, a daughter, Rebecca Jane.

PALING - On February 10th, to Heather and Martin, a son, Michael Jerome, a brother to Anna Jane.

RYLANDS - On February 12th 1991, to Georgiana (née West) and Peter, twin boys, Charles and Henry, brothers for Benedict and Thomas. Deo Gratias.

SATER - On November 15th, to Amanda (née Hamilton-Jones) and Mark, a gorgeous daughter, Abigail Jacqueline.

SYKES - On February 12th, to Jane (née Moffatt) and Jeremy, a son, Edward William Cumming.

SYKES-THOMPSON - On February 7th, to Lou (née Anderson) and John, a daughter Kate, a sister for Peter.

TUSA - On February 13th, at home, to Lucy (née Clackson) and Sash, a daughter, Rebecca Anne Lydue, a sister for Felix.

VAUGHAN - On February 5th, at The Portland Hospital, to Sarah (née Harding-Rolls) and Thomas, a son, Henry Michael Holroyd, a brother for Sophia and Georgianna.

WALLER - On February 14th, in Nairobi, to Sheila and Jeremy, a son, a brother for Anthony and Nicholas.

MARRIAGES

USACK - On Friday February 8th, Ian to Julie ...ily in Palm Beach. They will honeymoon in ...elize.

PURASSOT : JOHN...IN - The marriage took place in Lincoln, on February 7th 1991, between Christopher Lucas Thomasson, of Somerton ..., Lincoln, and Julia ...e St John Aubin, of 15 ...rrard Road, London, N1.

DEATHS

LL - On February 11th, Pamela (née Sostell), of Groton, Massachusetts, U.S.A., formerly of London-Heathrow area. Wife of Christopher J. Ball and mother of Caroline M. Ball of Groton, Massachusetts, U.S.A., sister and sister-in-law of Jane and Nick Splatt of Ontario, Canada. A Memorial Service will be held at the Trinity Church of Boston, Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A., today Friday at 2 pm. Contributions may be made in her memory to the Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A.

BARRAN - On February 12th 1991, peacefully at The Pines Nursing Home, Putney, Esther Frances Eveleigh, widow of Sir John Nicholson Barran, Second Baronet, pianist and Professor of the Royal College of Music, sister of the late Enid Blomfield and dearly loved Aunt of Juliet, beloved also of her pupils and friends. Funeral Service at Putney Vale Crematorium on February 21st at 2.45 pm. No flowers, but donations to the Musicians' Benevolent Fund may be sent to T.H. Sanders & Sons, 12/14 Medfield St., Roehampton, SW15 4JZ. (081-789 6355).

CAINE - On February 11th 1991, suddenly at Brompton Hospital, Marion (nee Corry), beloved wife of Geoffrey, of 9 Wolseley Gardens, London W4 3LY. Funeral on Friday February 15th at 1.30 pm in Chiswick Methodist Church and afterwards at Chiswick New Cemetery. No flowers please, donations in lieu to Dr. Geddes Research Fund, Brompton Hospital, London. Marion will be sadly missed by the whole family circle and her many friends.

CHADWICK - On February 12th, at his home, Harvard House, High Street, Acton, Sudbury, Suffolk, aged 85, William Frank Percival, Bishop of Barking 1959 to 1975. Funeral at All Saints, Acton, at 2 pm Tuesday February 19th. Family flowers only please. Donations may be made to the St Margaret's Church, Barking Trust, c/o Rev. Paul Thomas, 166 Longbridge Road, Barking, Essex IG11 8SS.

COCHRANE - On Sunday February 10th 1991, peacefully at home, Lochside, Kelso, Yseult Joan, in her 90th year.

DODSON - On February 11th, suddenly, John Sidney. Funeral Service on Thursday February 21st at Fressingfield Church, Suffolk, at 2 pm. Family flowers only please. Donations for Fressingfield Church c/o Rackhams Funeral Service, Stanley Road, Diss, Norfolk.

DUDLEY - On February 10th 1991, peacefully at Shenstone Nursing Home, after many years of fighting Parkinson's Disease, Ruby Marguerite (Betty), widow of J.K. Dudley, retired Headmaster of Q.E.G.S., mother of Rosemary, Michael and Hazel. Cremation at Streetly Crematorium on Monday February 18th at 1 pm. Flowers to Ian Hazel Funeral Directors, (021) 308-2288 or donations to Parkinson's Disease Society, 81 Queens Road, London SW19 8NR.

FELKIN - On February 12th 1991, peacefully after a long illness courageously borne, John, aged 54. Dearly loved husband of Lorraine and father of Susanna. Funeral Service at St Mary's Church, Wimbledon, on Wednesday February 20th at 11 am, followed by private burial at Putney Vale. Flowers and enquiries to Ashton Funeral Services, 140 Alexandra Road, SW19, tel: (081) 946-1051 or donations, if desired, to St Raphael's Hospice, N. Cheam, Surrey.

FISHER - Esther, see Barran.

GLENNIE - On February 12th 1991, peacefully at home, Rosemary Douglas Glennie, M.B.E., aged 77 years. Funeral Service, Mortlake Crematorium, Thursday February 21st at 2.30 pm. Friends welcome. Enquiries to J.H. Kenyon, (071) 937-0757

GREENWELL - On February 13th 1991, peacefully at home, Diana Mary, beloved wife of Benny and loving mother of Jane and Mary. Cremation private. Requiem Mass at the Roman Catholic Church, Petworth, West Sussex, on Friday February 22nd at 10 am. Donations, if desired, may be sent to the Friends of King Edward VII Hospital, Easebourne, Midhurst, West Sussex.

HARVIE-CLARK - On February 13th 1991, peacefully at Roxholm Hall Nursing Home, The Ven. Sidney (Pushue), aged 85 years. 20 years Archdeacon of Birmingham and 8 years Archdeacon of Stow. Beloved husband of Sheilah and devoted father of Andrew and Monica and the late Iona. Service at St Denys Church Sleaford, at 1.30 pm on Tuesday February 19th, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, but donations if wished to the Alzheimers Disease Society, 158-160 Balham High Road, SW12 9BN. Thanksgiving Service in Lincoln Cathedral, details to be announced later

HARVEY-SAMUEL - On February 12th 1991, peacefully at home, with great courage, fortified by the rites of the Church, Richard Eric Daniel, much loved and greatly missed husband, father and grandfather. Funeral, St Mary's Church, Mendlesham, Suffolk, Friday February 22nd at 12.30 pm. Family flowers only please. Donations for East Suffolk Macmillan Nurses to Rackhams Funeral Service, Stanley Road, Diss, Norfolk.

HENDERSON - On February 10th 1991, at Crieff, James Craig Henderson, aged 66 years, formerly with the Chartered Bank serving in the Far East between 1950-1977, and latterly in Cyprus. Retired 1979. Youngest son of the late David Henderson and Alexandra Wallace Henderson (nee Young), both of Scotland. His ashes are being scattered in the Kenmore area.

JOHNSON - On February 12th, peacefully after a courageous and sudden fight against cancer, Jane Louise, aged 28 years, of Radmoor, Peplow, Shropshire. Dearly missed and loved wife of Stirling Duncan Arthur Johnson and daughter of Ann and Vernon Cox. Funeral Service at 2 pm on Friday February 22nd 1991 at St Bartholomew's Church, Moreton Corbet, Shropshire, followed by interment in the churchyard. Flowers are welcome or donations to the Cancer Help Centre, Pennant Melangell, SY10 0HQ. Enquiries to J.R. Williams Funeral Director tel. (0630) 4490.

OUTRAM - On February 13th 1991, peacefully at home, Jean Marion, aged 85, beloved aunt of Margaret and Alan and dear friend of Dorothy.

PRYCE - On February 12th, peacefully at her home, Priors Row, Stratton-on-the-Fosse, near Bath, Joan, widow of Dennis. Funeral Service and cremation at Haycombe, Bath, on Tuesday February 19th at 11.40 am. Family flowers only please. Enquiries to Bryan G. Bishop Funeral Director, Hallatrow Road, Paulton, near Bristol.

SHIELLS - On February 13th, peacefully at the home of her daughter in Snowshill, in her 90th year, Kathleen Shiells, widow of the Reverend Robin Shiells, formerly Rector of Shenfield, Essex. A much loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Private cremation. No flowers. A Thanksgiving Service for her life will take place in April. Donations to Save the Children together with any enquiries may be made to J & M Humphris, Albert Street, Banbury, Oxon, tel: (0295) 265424.

WALKER - On February 13th 1991, after a long illness borne with great dignity, Arthur, aged 65 years, of Alwoodley, Leeds. Much beloved husband of Mavis. Dearly loved father of Paul, Judy and Gilly and father-in-law of Sally and Phil Dear and loving Grandpa to the six boys, Richard, Kieran, Mark, William, Adam and Toby. Service to be held on Tuesday February 19th at 12.15 pm at St John's Church, Moor Allerton, Leeds and afterwards at Lawnswood Cemetery. Enquiries tel: (0532) 672328.

WYNDHAM-DAVIES - On February 13th, peacefully in her 91st year, Despina Angelina (Dessie), beloved mother of June and Sally and cherished grandmother of Adam and Emma. Funeral at 3.30 pm on February 19th at Mortlake Crematorium. Flowers to Kenyons, 83 Westbourne Grove, London W2, by noon February 19th.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

HOLMES - The funeral service for Godfrey Holmes O.B.E., of Lincoln, who died February 11th 1991, will take place on Wednesday February 20th at Bailgate Methodist Church, Lincoln at 12.15 pm. No flowers by request, but donations if desired via Mr P.H. Russell, Russell Robinson and Adie, Norwich Union House, St Peter-at-Arches, Lincoln, for The Godfrey Holmes Foundation, to help sufferers from Multiple Sclerosis and other neurological diseases also including mentally and physically handicapped people.

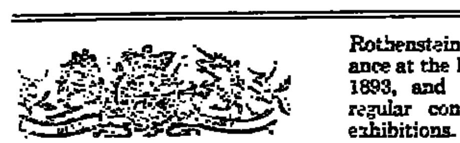
MEMORIAL SERVICES

YEOMAN - There will be a Service of Thanksgiving for Mick's life at 2 pm on Friday March 15th at Kimpton Parish Church. Donations if wished to the National Spinal Injury Centre, Stoke Mandeville, Aylesbury.

FEB 15

ON THIS DAY

1945



Sir William Rothenstein (1872-1945), a former principal of the Royal College of Art, was a past master of portraiture. He was an Official War Artist in the first world war and in the second executed over two hundred portraits of members of the RAF of all ranks.

SIR W. ROTHENSTEIN

A Life Devoted To Art

Sir William Rothenstein, the eminent draughtsman and painter, who was Principal of the Royal College of Art from 1920 to 1935, died at Far Oakridge, Stroud, yesterday.

Rothenstein's whole life was a striking instance of unswerving devotion to a chosen profession, and its public and private responsibilities. He was born at Bradford, Yorkshire, on January 29, 1872, second son of the late Moritz Rothenstein, and was educated at Bradford Grammar School. After 18 months at the Slade School, which he entered at the age of 16, under Alphonse Legros, he went to Paris and studied at Julian's under Lefebvre, Constant and Doucet, and became acquainted with all the celebrated artists and writers who made Paris their headquarters. Companionable, witty and observant, he was universally popular, and looked upon as a youth of great promise. His most intimate friend was Charles Conder, with whom he shared an exhibition in 1891, their close friendship lasting until Conder's death. In 1893, Rothenstein first exhibited at the Salon.

In the same year, at the instance of John Lane, Rothenstein went to Oxford and began, under the general title of "Oxford Characters", published as lithographs in 1896, the series of portrait drawings which were to be, on the whole, his most consistently good artistic productions. From Oxford, Rothenstein was plunged into the London of the "Yellow nineties, the London of the "Yellow Book", to which he contributed, as well as to its successor, "The Savoy". Rothenstein made his first appearance at the New English Art Club in 1893, and he continued to be a regular contributor to the club's exhibitions. His portrait group of Furse, Steer, "Max", Sickert, and MacColl was shown there in 1894.

From 1912 to 1920, he lived in the Cotswolds, near Sapperton, where he painted many landscapes. It was in 1917 that Rothenstein received his first public appointment, as Professor of Civic Art at Sheffield University, where his views on the relation of art to the community found full scope and public expression. Three years later, he was appointed Principal of the Royal College of Art, South Kensington, a post which he retained until 1935. Surrounding himself with a staff of highly qualified assistants, he established a regime of elastic control, under which full opportunity was given to originality in the student, so long as the personal inclination was backed by seriousness.

Rothenstein's work as Principal of the Royal College of Art must rank as one of the main achievements of his career, and it was fittingly linked with his second great achievement, the long series of portrait drawings of eminent contemporaries which occupied him throughout his working life. After his retirement in 1935, thirty of these drawings were bought, as a memorial to his tenure of office, by a body of subscribers for presentation to the National Portrait Gallery.

In the present war, Rothenstein devoted much time and care, until his health broke down under the strain, to making over two hundred portraits of members of all ranks of the R.A.F., whom he visited at their stations. These were exhibited at the Leicester Galleries in 1942, and a selection of them was published in book form. The greater part of this series he gave to the nation in gratitude for the victory of the Battle of Britain.

Rothenstein was an excellent writer and his three volumes of memoirs, published in 1931, 1932 and 1939, not only contained many amusing stories of his sitters, but also illustrated the writer's sanity of judgment upon art and life. He was a fluent and accomplished speaker, both in a formal lecture (he was Romanes lecturer at Oxford in 1934) and upon a social occasion.

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"THE FATTER the fingers, the squidgier the face, but bund the belle, I love you most."

WEE SALLY PALLY, is loved by an ally, who's game to stay home or away - Rugger Bugger

BIRTHDAYS

WAYNE EDWARD with lovely green eyes. 35. 8-3-56

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FULHAM, dbl rm in shared flat, ch, washing mach, gdn. All amenities. Nr tube/bus. £70 pw incl. (w) Tracey 081-741 1511 ext 204. (h) 071-731 2706.

FULHAM - Prof M/F, N/S, Own room in lge lux 2 bed house near tube. £110 p.w. Tel:071-403 1323.

HAMPSTEAD VILLAGE. Lux house, O/R, 2 mins tube, suit mature prof N/S M, Mon-Fri £70pw inc. 071-794 2727.

HAMPSTEAD Village. Lux. hse. 1 min. tube. Lge. O/R. Prof. N/S. M. £88 p.w. inc. 071 435 0742

MAIDA VALE W9. Superb lux flat beside tube, sports amenities etc. £90 pw. Tel: 071-497 2211 day, 071-286 6879 eves.

MAIDA VALE N/S, prof. dbl rm in lux flat. Nr tube. £80 pw. D: 404 4701. E: 071-286 4639.

PUTNEY Lux hse opp BR. Lge o/r mod cons. Shr 2 others. £80pw Ph Clare: 071 568 4545 x4208 (O)/081 789 0660 (eves).

STREATHAM SW16. Single room in large sunny flat for N/S. CH. Nr BR. £60 pw. 081-769 6812.

SW20 Large double and single rooms. £60pw & £45pw inc. N/s. Garage. 081-946 3120.

SW4 n/s prof m/f for dbl rm + own lge sit rm, share K & B in lux hse, with 1 other, close tube. £70 pw. 071-580 5699 Ext 3229 (Day). 071-326 1088 (Eves/Weekends).

SW6 Prof N/S, late 20's, £68pw + bills. 3 mins Parsons Green tube. Tel: 071-736 8965 eves.

SW1 Space, light and grandeur. Own large room sharing magnificent mansion flat, with Maid and utilities included. £125 per week. Tel: 071-589 0910.

WANDSWORTH CMN. Best area. Lge dble bedsitter with view + even larger flatshare dble. C/H. Each for 1 quiet n/s. No bills. £73 & £80 pw. 081-877 0806

WANDSWORTH, prof m/f to share comfortable flat. Own rm. £55 pw exc. 081-874 4640.

W HAMPSTEAD, own dbl rm in lux flat with 1 other, all mod cons, n/s, 5 mins tube. £380 pcm no dep req. 081-450 1925.

WIMBLEDON Own room in house: (all mod. cons & garden). N/s. £240 pcm. 081-542 6987.

RENTALS

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ACCOMMODATION always req'd in Central London. L/lords and tenants contact Flatlink for a quality service 071-287 4011.

ACCOMMODATION URGENTLY req for City Institutions. Call us with your properties to let Sebastian Estates 071 381 4998

ALLEN BATES & CO have a selection of furnished flats. 1 bedroom upwards in Central London area. Available for lets of 1 week plus. From £200 pw plus. 071-436 6666.

AMERICAN Bank urgently require luxury flats/houses for long term periods in Holland Park and Notting Hill Gate areas. Foxtons 071-221 5534.

BAYSWATER Lux flat with patio in gdn sq. Recep, kit, bath & dbl bedrm £150pw. 071 221 0691

1 BED Quiet Mews Flat, all machines. Secure. 3 mins Bond St. £225 pw. Tel: 081-9560428.

BELGRAVIA Charming mews cottage, dble reception, d/room, fitd kitchen. Master bedroom with en suite jacuzzi. 2 further bedrooms. 2nd bath plus shower rm. Small terrace. £625 pw. Tel: 081 671 2056 or 0894 32345

BROMPTON PK SW6. Superb lux 1 dbl bed flat 8 kit swim pool nr tube. £170 pw. 071-381 4993 t

BROOK GREEN Superb, v. lux. bright 2 bed flat, ff kit, nr tube. Barg £160 pw. 071-381 4998 t

CHELSEA, Westminster, Pimlico and central London. Luxury flats available on long or short lets from £120 - £1,000 pw. Call Coopers 071-828 8251.

CHELSEA SW3. Superb, v. lux studio flat, ff kit nr tube bargain £136 pw inc. 071 381 4998 t.

CHELSEA Extra light lux balcony apt. Dble bedrm, good recep, lifts, porters. 071-622 5825

CHISWICK. Spacious house close tube & shops. 3 bed, 2 recep, gdn, GCH, all mod cons, recently redec. Avail immed. £260 pw. 081-994 4771

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081-777 4390 or 081-776 2017 (Eves)

CLAPHAM COMMON Northside. Just off. Newly converted light and airy 2 bed luxury flat. All mod cons, fully furn. GCH. £170 pw. Tel: 071 380 0702.

DELIGHTFUL ground floor annexe, attached to private house at Middleton-on-sea, West Sussex. Ideal for elderly lady or gentleman no longer able to live alone, or might suit elderly couple where 1 partner now needs help to care for other. Caring attention, home cooked meals, laundry etc. Tel (0243) 582937

EBURY St SW1 studio in serviced block, £150 pw. Edmund Cude & Booth 071-482 1060

EUROPEAN & American Bankers & Diplomats require luxury flats/houses in SW1 SW3 SW5 SW7 SW10. Contact Keith Cardale Groves, 071-730 6191

FOR Accomodation in lieu of housework, see advert in Domestic Situations.

FW GAPP (Management Services) Ltd Require properties in central, south & west London areas for waiting applicants. Tel: 071-243 0964.

HENDON - Furnished 5 bed house, lge garden. All mod cons. £350 p.w. 071-2658327

HENRY & JAMES Contact us now on 071-235 8861 for the best selection of furnished flats and houses to rent in Belgravia, Knightsbridge and Chelsea.

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HYDE PARK Superb luxury 2 bed, 2 bath flat. Priv pkg. £350-£390 pw. Drury 071-379 4816.

KENSINGTON Gardens, 2 mins. Charming, quiet, secure garden flat, 3 double bedrooms. £315 pw. 071-937 9674.

KENSINGTON PK, W11 Spacious family hse with 3/4 beds, 2/3 receps, study, kit, 2 bths & gdn. £550 pw. Douglas Smith, Chartered Surveyor. 071-937 1176.

KENSINGTON and Chelsea. Range of lux 1/2/3 bed flats fr £180-2,000pw 071-371 1448

KENSINGTON - W.14. Lux new 1 bed flat, garage, 24 hr security. £200 p.w. 071-376 2384.

LANDLORDS - JUST LETTING. Urgently req quality properties for prof tenants 071 371 7370

LANDLORDS, all central London properties urgently req for waiting prof tenants. 071-371 1448

MARBLE ARCH, Mayfair, Hyde Park. The finest selection of luxury long and short lets. Friendly service & advice. Seasonal discounts. Globe Apartments. 071-935 9512 (est 1980)

MARYLEBONE W1. Superb, lge lux 2 dbl bed flat 2 bath. Bargain £260 pw. 071-381 4998 t

NOTTING HILL Superb, bright lux 2 bed flat ff kit gdns nr tube. Bargn £236 pw. 071-381 4998t

NW3 Primrose Hill. 1 Bed. Flat. F/F. CH. Phone. t.v. Close Tube. £500 p.c.m. Tel: (D) 071 723 7030 Ext. 1023 (W.Ends 0242 233481)

PIMLICO Superb, bright v lux, 3 bed maisonette 2 bath, tennis ct. nr tube £325pw 071-381 4998t

PIMLICO Superb bright. lux. v lge 2 bed flat, 2 bath, tennis ct. nr tube. £260 pw. 071-381 4998 t

RICHMOND HILL. Panoramic view from lux ff 2 bed bal flat. Comm Grdn. Tube and B.R 7 mins walk. Avail 1st March £200 pw. Tel: 0279 792606.

SELECTION of luxury furnished flats in Knightsbridge from £275 - £400 p/w for Long Let. Contact Philip at Tuan Management Ltd. 071 581 9070.

SERVICED APARTMENTS - Chelsea. Well sited. Restaurant, late night shopping. Furnished studio & 1 bed flats from £220 pw. Min 1 mth. Letting Office. Nell Gwynn House, Sloane Ave London SW3. 071-584 8317. TX:916358 NGHLDN.

STUDIO self-contained flatlet. W10 area, small patio. Tel 081-964 0009 9-5pm.

SW2 Bright spacious 3 bed garden maisonette. GCH, w/m. Nr tube. £200 pw. 081-674 0728.

SW9 Conv to city, elegant unfurn hse 6 bed, fully ref £460 pw Long let 081 871 9661/2 T

SW1, warm 1 bed flat, own entry, lge recep, k/b, ch, short let. £136 pw. 071-834 0178.

URGENTLY Required for european banker 2 bedroom apt in K'bridge, South Ken, Chelsea areas. 071 370 5455 (t)

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GERMAN TRAVEL Daily rtn. F'furt £68, D'dorf £78, Munich £98, Berlin £121. Tel: 071 836 4444 ABTA 90635 - IATA

JCW Fares Worldwide - USA, N/S America, Australia, Far East, Africa. Airline Agt'd Agt Traywale. 48 Margaret Street, W1 071 580 2928 (Visa Access)

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 3 OF THE REVERTER OF SITES ACT 1987
The Former School at Beechingstoke
in the County of Wiltshire

WHEREAS:

(1) The Trustees of the above former school formerly held the land specified in the First Schedule hereto under a Deed dated the 18th January 1866 and made between Edward Little and Susannah Hayward (1) and the Minister and Churchwardens of the Parish of Beechingstoke (2). The Deed is believed to have been made under the provisions of Section 2 of the School Sites Act 1841 upon trust for use for the purposes of a School. On ceasing to be used for these purposes there is provision for reverter of the land.

(2) The land ceased to be so used and by virtue of Section 1 of the Reverter of Sites Act 1987 became subject to a trust to sell the land and to stand possessed of the net proceeds of sale and of the net rents and profits until sale upon trust for the persons who but for that Act would from time to time be entitled to the ownership of the land by virtue of its reverter.

(3) The Trustees have sold the land and now hold the property specified in the Second Schedule hereto on the last mentioned trust.

Now the Trustees give notice as follows:-

1. The Trustees propose to apply to the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales under Section 2 of the Reverter of Sites Act 1987 for an Order establishing a Scheme with respect to the property subject to the said trust which will:- (a) extinguish the rights of beneficiaries under the trust; and (b) require the Trustees to hold the said property on trust for such charitable purposes as may be specified in the Order.
2. Any beneficiary under the trust who wishes to oppose the *extinguishment of his rights* should notify his claim in writing to the Trustees c/o Parker Bullen, 45 Castle Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire, within three months from today.

THE FIRST SCHEDULE
THE parcel of freehold land with the premises once used as a Schoolroom but long since used for other purposes at Beechingstoke in Wiltshire.

THE SECOND SCHEDULE
THE sum of £14,446.96 being the net proceeds of sale of the property described in the First Schedule plus accrued interest.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERS
NAYLORS (R & J) LIMITED
T/A NAYLORS PACKAGING
NO.529471
NAYLORS PLANT HIRE LIMITED NO.1700985
N P P LIMITED NO.1015372
BROOKFIELD ESTATES (WELSHPOOL) LIMITED
NO. 689777
BARFORD JOINERY MILLS LIMITED NO.401296
F G FERRIDAY LIMITED
NO.551047
NAYLORS CONTRACT PACKAGING SERVICES LIMITED
NO.419466

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 46 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that on the 6th day of February 1991 we, James Kenneth Rees Jones F C A and Andrew Michael Menzies M I P A, of Robson Rhodes, Centre City Tower, 7 Hill Street, Birmingham B5 4UU, were appointed Joint Administrative Receivers under the powers contained in debentures dated 30th August 1988 giving the holder Barclays Bank PLC, a fixed and floating charge over the whole of the property of the companies.
J K R JONES
Dated 7th day of February 1991

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE 1990 CHRISTMAS APPEAL
On behalf of SENSE
THE NATIONAL DEAF BLIND AND RUBELLA ASSOCIATION

The results of The 1990 Sense General Knowledge competition are as follows:-

Mr R Newton, R Newton Joiners, Turbury Barn, Turbury Lane, Greetland, Halifax; Holiday Voucher for £500 donated by The Travel Club of Upminster, Station Road, Upminster, Essex.

Raymond Sealer, 33 Queens Street, Morley, Leeds; Weekend Break for two donated by Consort Hotels, York.

Mr T White, Thomas White Associates, 24 Church Green East, Redditch, Worcs; Weekend Break for two plus dinner for two donated by Hotel Russell, London.

Mr C Wade, Pedigree Knitwear Ltd, Old Mill Lane, Leicester; Mini Hi Fi donated by Anon.

Mrs Pauline Leedors, Lane Transport, Galleymead House, Bath Road, Colnbrook, Slough; Course of Skiing Lessons donated by Hillingdon Ski Centre, Middlesex.

In addition to those listed above are a number of other donated prizes, the winners of which will be notified individually by the organisers of the appeal. We would like to thank everyone involved for their kind donations.

PUBLIC NOTICES

IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
-and-
IN THE MATTER OF CARDIGAN COMPONENTS AND INSTRUMENTS LIMITED (IN RECEIVERSHIP)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a MEETING of the UNSECURED CREDITORS will be held at
The Grand Hotel
Colmore Row
Birmingham
B3 2DA
on the 20th day of February 1991 at 2.00pm for the purpose of receiving a report covering the background to and progress of the receivership together with other matters stipulated by Section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986. Copies of the joint administrative receivers' report will be provided free of charge to all creditors who ask the joint administrative receivers for a copy at the following address:
Livery House
169 Edmund Street
Birmingham
B3 2JB

Please note that a person is entitled to vote at the meeting only if the provisions of Rule 3.11(1) Insolvency Rules 1986 have been complied with, namely that:

(a) he has given to the administrative receiver not later than 12.00 noon on the business day before the day fixed for the meeting, details in writing of the debt that he claims to be due to him from the company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provision of Rule 3.11(2)(7) and

(b) there has been lodged with the administrative receiver any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.

Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or to be represented at the meeting.
Dated 6th day of February 1991
SREH HANCOCK FCA
Joint Administrative Receiver
Feb5b/JAH

LEGAL NOTICES

A GRODZINSKI & CO LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at: The Hendon Hall Hotel, Ashley Lane, Hendon, London NW4 on Tuesday 26th day of February 1991 at 11.0 o'clock in the fore noon, for the purpose provided for in Sections 98 et seq.
David Rubin, ACA Licensed Insolvency Practitioner, of David Rubin & Co., Pearl Assurance House, 319 Ballards Lane, North Finchley, London N12 8LY, will provide the creditors free of charge with such information as to the Company's affairs as the creditors may reasonably require until the 25th February 1991.
Dated 12th day of February 1991
DAVID E GRODZINSKI, Director

ALL ACCOUNTS LIMITED
Registered number: 933007. Nature of business: PAYROLL AND ACCOUNTS SERVICES. Trade classification: 38. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 5 FEBRUARY, 1991. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: THE ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND PLC. P R SYKES AND J R HILL Joint Administrative Receivers (office holder nos 6119 and 5737) of BDO BINDER HAMLYN
20 OLD BAILEY
LONDON EC4M 7BH

CHEF MASTER (UK) LIMITED
Registered number: 785676. Nature of business: SUPPLIER OF CATERING EQUIPMENT. Trade classification: 50. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 5 FEBRUARY 1991. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: THE ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND PLC. P R SYKES AND J R HILL Joint Administrative Receivers (office holder nos 6119 and 5737) of BDO BINDER HAMLYN, 20 OLD BAILEY, LONDON EC4M 7BH

CHURCHFIELD
CREDIT COMPANY LIMITED
Registered number: 982580. Nature of business: LEASE AND FINANCE. Trade classification: 38. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 5 FEBRUARY 1990. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: THE ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND PLC. P R SYKES AND J R HILL. Joint Administrative Receivers (office holder nos 6119 and 5737) of BDO BINDER HAMLYN, 20 OLD BAILEY, LONDON EC4M 7BH

CHURCHFIELD
LEASING LIMITED
Registered number: 1771857. Nature of business: LEASING COMPANY. Trade classification: 38. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 5 FEBRUARY 1991. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: THE ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND PLC. P R SYKES AND J R HILL. Joint Administrative Receivers (office holder nos 6119 and 5737) of BDO BINDER HAMLYN, 20 OLD BAILEY, LONDON EC4M 7BH

COSTELL MECHANICAL SERVICES LIMITED
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named company will be held at St. Paul's House, Warwick Lane, London, EC4P 4BN on Wednesday 20th February 1991, at three in the afternoon for the purposes mentioned in sections 99 to 101 of the said Act.
Notice is further given that a list of names and addresses of the company's creditors may be inspected free of charge at St. Paul's House, Warwick Lane, London, EC4P 4BN, on the two business days proceeding the meeting.
By Order of the Board
Dated 11th February 1991
W.J. Da Costa, Secretary

FARRANT PRODUCTS LIMITED
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named company will be held at The St Cross Hotel, 17 St Cross Road, Winchester, Hants SO23 9JA on Thursday the 28th day of February 1991 at 11.00am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 100 and 101 of the said Act.
Mr. D B Coakley of Leach Bright & Partners, Langton Priory, Portsmouth Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 5EH, is qualified to act as an insolvency practitioner in relation to the above company and will furnish creditors free of charge with such information concerning the company's affairs as is reasonably required.
Proxies to be used at the meeting must be lodged with the Company's Registered Office at Leach Bright & Partners, Langton Priory, Portsmouth Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 5EH not later than 12 noon on the Wednesday the 27th day of February 1991.
Dated 6th day of February 1991
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
M G Farrant - DIRECTOR

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
CORPORATE PROPERTY DEVELOPMENTS LTD
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named company is to be held at 76 New Cavendish Street, London W1M 7LB on 6 March 1991 at 11.30 a.m. for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.
A list of the names and addresses of the company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at 76 New Cavendish Street, London W1M 7LB between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. as from 4 March 1991.
Proxies to be used at the meeting must be lodged at the registered office of the company situated at 76 New Cavendish Street, London W1M 7LB not later than 12 noon on 5 March 1991.
Dated 23 January 1991
T THOMSON, Director

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
No 00947 of 1991
CHANCERY DIVISION
Mr Registrar Buckley
IN THE MATTER OF CRYSTALATE HOLDINGS plc
-and-
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that by an Order dated the 31st January 1991 the Court has directed Separate Meetings of the holders of the Ordinary Shares of 5p each ("Crystalate Ordinary Shares") and 5.6 per cent. Cumulative Preference Shares of 50p each ("Crystalate Preference Shares") of the above-named Company (other than ordinary or preference shares beneficially owned by TT Group PLC or any of its subsidiaries ("Excluded Ordinary Shares" or "Excluded Preference Shares")) to be convened for the purpose of considering and if thought fit approving (with or without modification) a Scheme of Arrangement proposed to be made between the said Company and the holders of its said ordinary and preference shares (other than as aforesaid) respectively and that such Meetings will be held at the offices of Credit Lyonnais Laing, Broadwalk House, 5 Appold Street, London, EC2A 2DA on 4 March 1991 at the respective times below mentioned namely:

(1) The Meeting of the holders of the Ordinary Shares (other than as aforesaid) at 10.30 in the forenoon;

(2) The Meeting of the holders of the Preference Shares (other than as aforesaid) at 10.40 in the forenoon or so soon thereafter as the preceding meeting shall have been concluded;

at which place and respective times all the aforesaid shareholders are requested to attend.

Any person entitled to attend the said Meetings can obtain copies of the said Scheme of Arrangement, forms of Proxy and copies of the Statement required to be furnished pursuant to Section 426 of the above-mentioned Act at the registered office of the said Company situate at 2 Crampton Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN14 5DS and at the office of the undermentioned Solicitors at the address mentioned below during usual business hours on any day (other than a Saturday or Sunday) prior to the day appointed for the said Meetings.

The said shareholders may vote in person at such of the said Meetings as they are entitled to attend or they may appoint another person whether a member of the Company or not as their proxy to attend and vote in their stead.

It is requested that forms appointing proxies be lodged with the Registrar of the Company, Lloyds Bank PLC, Goring-by-Sea, Worthing, West Sussex, BN12 4BR not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for the said Meetings, but if forms are not so lodged they may be handed to the Chairman at the Meeting at which they are to be used.

In the case of joint holders of either Ordinary or Preference Shares the vote of the senior who tenders a vote whether in person or by proxy will be accepted to the exclusion of the votes of the other joint holders, and for this purpose seniority will be determined by the order in which the names stand in the Register of Members.

By the said Order the Court has appointed George Stuart Grindley Brown or failing him Michael Ronald Eke or failing him John Watson Newman to act as Chairman of each of the said Meetings and has directed the Chairman to report the results thereof to the Court.

The said Scheme of Arrangement will be subject to the subsequent approval of the Court.
Dated 15th day of February 1991
Messrs Gouldens,
22 Tudor Street,
London EC4Y 0JJ.
Solicitors for the above-named Company

Suzanne
Customer Services

Notice of appointment of liquidator
voluntary winding up
(Members or Creditors)
Pursuant to section 109 of the Insolvency Act 1986
Company Number: 1791528. Name of company: Media Messengers Ltd. Nature of business: Courier Service. Type of Liquidation: Creditors' Voluntary. Address of registered office: Treviot House, 186-192 High Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 1JQ. Liquidators name and address: Richard Andrew Segal, Treviot House, 186-192 High Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 1JQ. Office holder number: 002686. Date of appointment: 30th January 1991. By whom appointed: Members & Creditors.
RA SEGAL, LIQUIDATOR
Date 1st February 1991

Notice of appointment of liquidator
voluntary winding up
(Members or Creditors)
Pursuant to section 109 of the Insolvency Act 1986
Company Number: 2208940. Name of company: Williams Fireproofing Ltd. Nature of business: Structural Fireproofing. Type of Liquidation: Creditors' Voluntary. Address of registered office: Treviot House, 186-192 High Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 1JQ. Liquidators name and address: Richard Andrew Segal, Treviot House, 186-192 High Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 1JQ. Office holder number: 002686. Date of appointment: 31st January 1991. By whom appointed: Members & Creditors.
RA SEGAL, LIQUIDATOR
Date 3rd February 1991

Notice of appointment of liquidator
voluntary winding up
(Members and Creditors)
Pursuant to section 109 of the Insolvency Act 1986
Company Number: 2119748. Name of Company: Verity Limited. Nature of business: Production and wholesale of ecological awareness products. Type of liquidation: Creditors. Address of registered office: 20 Brunswick Place, Southampton, SO1 2EQ. Liquidators name and address: Roger Arthur Powdrill, FCA, 112 High Street, Croydon CR0 1ND. Office holder number: 002692 / 01. Date of appointment: 1 February 1991. By whom appointed: Creditors.
RA POWDRILL, Liquidator
Date: 11-2-91

Notice of Appointment of Administrative Receiver
IVY HILL HOTELS LTD
Registered number: 874151. Trading names: SARACENS HEAD HOTEL, IVY HILL HOTEL. Nature of business: LICENCED HOTEL & RESTAURANTS. Trade classification: 47. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 6 FEBRUARY 1991. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: FENNOSCANDIA BANK LTD. MARTIN FISHMAN AND ANTHONY WILLIAM BRIERLEY, Joint Administrative Receivers (office holder nos 6470 AND 5641). Address: MESSRS ARTHUR ANDERSON & CO., P.O.BOX 55, 1 SURREY STREET, LONDON WC2R 2NT

CADNET LIMITED
(In Administrative Receivership)
Company Number: 2267642
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 46(1) of The Insolvency Act 1986 that PHILIP MONJACK, FCA and STEPHEN DANIEL SWADEN, FCA of Messrs. Leonard Curtis & Co., 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London, W2 6LF, were appointed Administrative Receivers of the whole of the property of the above Company on Tuesday, 29th January, 1991 by Midland Bank Plc under the powers contained in a Fixed and Floating Charge dated 20th March, 1990.
Dated 29th day of January 1991
P. MONJACK, FCA and
S.D. SWADEN, FCA
Joint Administrative Receivers

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Appointment of Administrative Receiver
SAINT HOTELS PLC
Registered number: 1979365. Nature of business: HOTELIERS. Trade Classification: 47. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 7th February 1991. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: BANK OF SCOTLAND (of 38 Threadneedle Street, London). NIGEL GEOFFREY ATKINSON & ANTHONY RAYMOND HOUGHTON, Joint Administrative Receivers (office holder nos: 1502 and 1682). Address: 50/57 HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, WC1V 6DX.

COMMUNICATION CORPORATION LIMITED
Registered number: 2397116. Trading name: EURO-COMMS. Nature of business: Rental of Two-Way Radio Equipment. Trade classification: 32. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 5th February 1991. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: MIDLAND BANK PLC
Keith David Goodman, FCA & Philip Monjack, FCA Joint Administrative Receivers (office holders nos 2407 and 2344) of Leonard Curtis & Co., 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 6LF

IN THE MATTER OF B.E.L. PRINT FINISHERS LIMITED
-and-
IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Creditors of the above-named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 1st day of March 1991, to send in their full forenames and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned Keith David Goodman F.C.A., 20 New Road, Brighton, East Sussex, BN1 1UF the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidators, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated 30th day of January 1991
K.D. GOODMAN, Liquidator

In the matter of:-
PELLBRADUP LTD.
BRADPELLDOWN LTD.
(BOTH IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
COMPANY NUMBERS: 359408 AND 1313080
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
On 19 December 1990 the above named companies were placed into Members' Voluntary Liquidation and Martin Fishman of Arthur Andersen & Co., P.O. Box 55, 1 Surrey Street, London, WC2R 2NT, was appointed Liquidator by the Members.
The Liquidator gives notice pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to the Liquidator, at the above address, by 16 March 1991.
The company is able to pay all of its known creditors in full.
DATED 17 JANUARY 1991.
M. FISHMAN
786f

In the matter of:-
SALUSBURY HOUSE LTD
(IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
COMPANY NUMBER: 1090505
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
On 19 December 1990 the above named company was placed into Members' Voluntary Liquidation and Martin Fishman of Arthur Andersen & Co., P.O.Box 55, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT, was appointed Liquidator by the Members.
The Liquidator gives notice pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to the Liquidator, at the above address, by 16 March 1991.
The company is able to pay all of its known creditors in full.
M. FISHMAN
DATED 17 JANUARY 1991

IN THE MATTER OF LONDON BLUES LIMITED
Trading As
LAZY RIVER RESTAURANT
-and-
IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of The Insolvency Rules 1986 notice is hereby given that I, Keith David Goodman, FCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs. Leonard Curtis & Co., 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London, W2 6LF, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members and creditors on 7th February 1991.
Dated 7TH day of February 1991
Keith David Goodman, FCA.
Liquidator
Leonard Curtis & Co.
Chartered Accountants
P.O. Box 553
30 Eastbourne Terrace
London, W2 6LF

IN THE MATTER of WARD WICKS ASSOCIATES LIMITED
Trading As IN THE PICTURE
-and-
IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of The Insolvency Rules 1986 notice is hereby given that I, Kevin Paul Barry, FCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs. Leonard Curtis & Co., 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London, W2 6LF, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members and creditors on 6th February 1991.
Dated 6TH day of February 1991
Kevin Paul Barry, FCA.
Liquidator
Leonard Curtis & Co.
Chartered Accountants
P.O. Box 553
30 Eastbourne Terrace
London W2 6LF

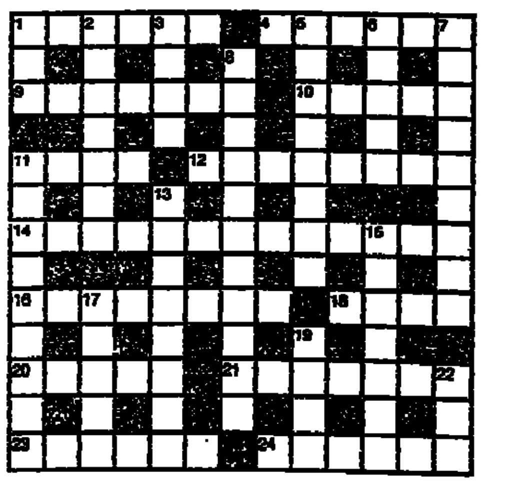
IN THE MATTER OF IN HOUSE SUPPLIES LIMITED AND IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 notice is hereby given that I, Peter Scholey Dunn FCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Latham Crossley & Davis, 45 Conduit Street, London, W1Y 3HG, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members and creditors on 7th February 1991.
DATED THIS 7th February 1991
PS DUNN FCA
LIQUIDATOR
LATHAM CROSSLEY & DAVIS
45 CONDUIT STREET
LONDON W1R 9FB

IN THE MATTER OF B.E.L. PRINT FINISHERS LIMITED
-and-
IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of The Insolvency Rules 1986 notice is hereby given that I, Keith David Goodman F.C.A. a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs. Leonard Curtis & Associates, 20 New Road, Brighton, BN1 1UF was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members and creditors on 30th January 1991.
K.D. GOODMAN, LIQUIDATOR
Dated 30th day of January 1991

BEAUCHAMP COMPUTER SYSTEMS LIMITED
Registered number: 1648787. Nature of business: COMPUTER SUPPLIER. Trade classification: 36. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 5 FEBRUARY 1991. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: THE ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND PLC. P R SYKES AND J R HILL Joint Administrative Receivers (office holder nos 6119 and 5737)
BDO BINDER HAMLYN
20 OLD BAILEY
LONDON EC4M 7BH

Continued on page 34

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 2409



ACROSS
1 Painter (6)
4 Deft (6)
9 Sure (7)
10 Medicate (5)
11 Harvest (4)
12 Bunched hair (4,4)
14 Kipling animal tales (4,2,7)
16 Tacit (8)
18 At a distance (4)
20 Ploy (5)
21 Ineffectual (7)
23 Recover (6)
24 Abrupt (6)

DOWN
1 Alphabet (1,1,1)
2 Strands (7)
3 Chunk (4)
5 Sailor's chest (5,3)
6 Last of series (5)
7 Aggregate betting (9)
8 Out cold (11)
11 Response (9)
13 Evaluation (8)
15 Close wicket area (7)
17 Shoulder tartan (5)
19 Boyfriend (4)
22 Brilliant star (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 2408

ACROSS: 1 Virgil 6 Surplus 8 Goliath 9 Antenna 10 Binge 11 Reef 12 Lens 15 Dart 17 Spur 19 Intro 20 Siberia 22 Riotous 23 Theatre 24 Unless

DOWN: 1 Vagabond 2 Relent 3 Imagery 4 Trot 5 Plunge 6 Shakespeare 7 Sea 13 Synopsis 14 Tricorn 16 Robber 18 Strobe 20 Set 21 Rate

[illegible]

A man, a brother and a mission

Bill Morris, once ambitious to be a shop floor supervisor, now says he will eventually become the general secretary of the TGWU.

Kate Muir met him in the first week of his election campaign

Bill Morris is a terrible disappointment. He has none of the characteristics that made trade union leaders a delight in the strife-torn Seventies. He is not wearing a bad brown suit. He lacks the impenetrable Scottish accent which allows the owner to shout "the wurrrkers" with authority. He fails to refer to women as brothers. Worst of all, he does not smoke, and so is deprived of the badge of his trade, the Embassy tipped held constantly between thumb and forefinger as though it were a pool cue.

Just as John Major has made politics boring by quoting the *Guardian* and agreeing with the Opposition on cold weather payments, so Mr Morris, the deputy general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, is making trade unionism tedious by an unhealthy reliance on the word "consensus".

Here we have a man who is supposed to be on the dangerous left of the TGWU talking about how wonderful the Japanese are, and what a lot we have to learn from them. There seems to be no problem about the union song being replaced by the company one, so long as the union sings the backing track. Such are the realities of the Nineties, and Mr Morris, aged 52, believes he will be the general secretary who can cope with them. His more right-wing opponents in the election campaign, now in its first week, are George Wright, the Wales regional secretary, and Bob Harrison, the secretary of the food and drink section. Not surprisingly, they all want to improve pay, job security and quality of life. So how will the punters know Mr Morris is special?

"It's not what you say, it's what you do," he says, cryptically. Is he talking about some secret agenda? Is there a plot? Sadly, no. The days of trade unionism being more akin to a backroom poker game, with a touch of ballot-rigging, are gone. "The members will judge me on my record as deputy general secretary for the last five years. They are a very sophisticated electorate and will not be fooled."

The electorate is obviously making up in quality for what it has lost in quantity. In its heyday — 1978, to be precise — the TGWU had more than two million members. Now it has 1.3 million, although it is still the biggest union. The Trades Union Congress's membership is down from 12.1 million to 8.4 million, and its headquarters, Congress House, where Mr Morris is today, is echoing and empty. The building won a Royal Institute of British Architects award in 1958, and that sums up its deficiencies. It is a perfect setting for worrying about the future of the union movement, beneath the shadow of a concrete statue, the kind which has been remaindered all over eastern Europe, of a giant man holding a floppy dead person in his stone arms. Perhaps a dead worker.

Some traditions are still alive, in particular the native language, of which Mr Morris has a firm grasp. "We are very much on the *learning curve* as far as the new debate on pay bargaining is concerned, but *at the end of the day*, it is the *opinion of the members* that will matter." For those outside the union, these are not so much buzz-words as snooze-words. Fortunately, Mr Morris stops orating after a few minutes and starts talking about where we go from here.

We go, in fact, to Japan, which Mr Morris has visited twice. He viewed the Japanese economy and industry, and was impressed. "They have a national consensus to succeed, a pride in what they do, and a community consensus within the company. Common objectives deflate conflict." He believes conflict still exists in Britain, although the worker-management divide is smaller than when he was a car worker in Birmingham in 1958.

> *'I don't want to be an autocratic leader. I shall not be spending time plotting in smoke-filled rooms'*

"There is still a class structure in Britain, despite the assertions by the prime minister. We may not mean the same by 'working class', but there are still interests which reflect either labour or capital. What the Japanese have learnt is to sweat the capital instead of sweating the labour. They don't do things in the short term, they invest in training and technology and are not afraid of waiting for returns.

"Here some companies are only interested in what they can get immediately, and keep up the divide by making certain people use a time clock, docking their pay if they go to the dentist, giving different maternity leave. Those should be basic human concerns, not dependent on salary."

But for a chance incident on the shop floor of the car components company Hardy Spicer, Mr Morris could have been on the management side. "I joined the union because everyone else did. I had no interest in being an activist. I had ambitions that if I kept my nose clean and did all the right things I might become a supervisor, but fate just wasn't going to take me in that direction."

Fate came in the form of protective gloves, which the machinists lacked. A deputation was sent to the foreman's office, but the shop steward was ill, so the 23-year-old Mr Morris was pushed to the front to say something. He did it rather well, and a few weeks later the shop steward resigned, and Mr Morris took over.

That was quite an achievement in the Handsworth of the early Sixties, where the factory gates still had signs saying "No Blacks Here", and gangs of Teddy boys attacked Mr Morris and his friends. "I used to go into this particular shop, and the lady behind the counter would just disappear. It sold sweets, and I kept going, until one day someone told me it happened every time a black person went in."

In some ways that overt racism was easy to confront, but the prejudice in the union itself was harder to nail down. Usually the deputy general secretary is nominated for the Labour party national executive committee, but Mr Morris was not — perhaps because he was left-wing. For other positions, though, the tone was clear. "People would say, 'Bill, it's in your own interest, but we just don't think the union is ready for a black officer'. Or, 'We don't think you'd be suitable for that part of the country'. But all that didn't deflate my determination."

He hated when groups conspired against him, and in a union whose dockers marched in the "rivers of blood" era, there were plenty of them. "For me, racism is not just an evil. It is a social disease, because if you have a racist father, you then get racist children, because it is part of the culture of the home. Racism devalues the victim, but it also corrupts the perpetrator."

Now, out of diplomacy, he gives the TGWU a clean bill of health. "Any organisation which can deliver a black car worker from Birmingham as its deputy general secretary, and eventually general secretary," he says, pausing to smile, "has shown its maturity and commitment to equality."

The union, and its master Ron Todd, have been well served by Mr Morris. He computerised membership lists, encouraged members to think European, and started the glossy Link Up campaign to bring in more members, raising recruits from 220,000 a year to 285,000. But there is nothing he can do about the shrinking of the union's constituency, as service industries and home workers replace manufacturing industry, which has declined by 30 per cent in the last decade. His words "we are a nation of manufacturers, we have to make our way in the world by making things" ring hollow as Jaguar makes more than a thousand workers redundant, and Britain plunges further into recession.

Recessions are never good times for unions, and this may increase the vote for the right when the ballot is counted on June 7. Mr Morris remains hopeful, although he is increasingly ministering to a dying membership. Even his election manifesto is titled "Mission Statement" in an evangelical sort of way, although he may be boldly going nowhere.

The electorate seems to like him personally. At Congress House, people keep coming up to shake his hand and in some cases kiss him, an act they would probably not relish with Ron Todd. He will not be an old-style union boss if he wins. "I shall try to use the word 'I' as little as possible. I am representing the members, not myself. I don't want to be an autocratic leader. I shall not be spending time plotting in smoke-filled rooms."

Mr Morris is still slightly astonished that he has gone so far. It is an unlikely end for the son of a part-time farmer, part-time policeman from Jamaica. He says his wife, Minetta, was instrumental in encouraging him. "We were childhood sweethearts. She was 17 and a trainee nurse and I was 16. We married young, we had children, and we made a lot of mistakes together, but she supported me and I her. Life was good to us, we had the breaks, but a lot of it was down to hard work."

Last year, she died of cancer. "It is one year, one month and two days since it happened. Her birthday was on Sunday, so that was always going to be hard. I have thrown myself into my work, but I recognise work is no substitute for her, so when this little lot is over I am going to take some time off and plan how I am going to rebuild my life."

ADRIAN BROOKS

Opening doors: Bill Morris still believes we have to make our way in the world by making things

Uncertain climate of change

After 20 decimal years, nostalgia for 'real' money lingers

Dip into your pocket: if there is a 10p piece dated earlier than 1971 among your small change, you are in the running today for a bargain. Or if you have an old moneybox full of farthings and sixpences at the back of the bureau, you still have the chance to save 80p on the Isle of Portland, or £2.95 in the port of Weymouth. To celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the introduction of decimal coinage, the Portland museum and the Tymewalk museum in Weymouth are waiving decimal entry charges for visitors paying for their ticket today with any pre-decimal coin.

"I was hoping we might get the odd doubloon or piece of eight," says Harvey Bailey, the head of leisure and tourism for Portland and Weymouth council. "Hardly anyone seems to be marking the anniversary, and since it is a piece of social history, we thought we would do it in a way linked to our museums. It is shocking to think that it is 20 years ago already."

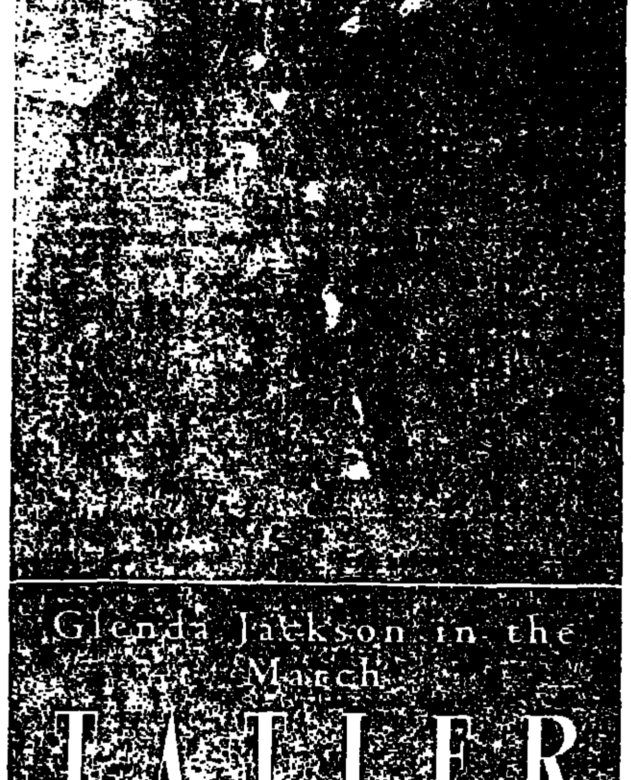
Since the old 5p piece was withdrawn last year, the former florin, whose face value is now 10p, has been the only coin in circulation which was minted at the same size and weight in pre-decimal form. When it, too, is withdrawn in 1992, the hope of coming out of the greengrocer's shop with an antique in one's change will finally be extinguished.

Overnight, decimalisation threw a patina of old-world quaintness over even the rawest and harshest of modern books and films. Pounds, shillings and pence were dispatched to the same retrospective realm as angels, nobles and groats. It changed the language, in ways that reaffirmed the fine unruliness of linguistic history. The powers that be had designed the change so that the populace should be confused as little as possible by new conceptions. The florin and the shilling (the "bob") were retained, and widely expected to retain their popular names. The new smaller coins bore the reassuringly familiar names of "penny" and "halfpenny".

Usage would have none of it. It saw the main need as the avoidance of confusion between new pennies and old, and threw up devices to secure this: the singular "pence", and the "pee" (a form which caused great initial anguish to the fastidious). Almost at once, it became ostentatiously archaic to refer to shillings, pennies, ha'pennies and tuppences. It is a mark of the scale of our cultural loss that none of our coins since 1971 has acquired a settled nickname, although witty people regularly try to launch them.

If you mean to visit the Portland museum today, by the way, check the date of your pre-decimal penny before parting with it. If the date is 1933, it is worth more than a whole treasure-chest of doubloons and pieces of eight.

GEORGE HILL



Campaigning
Glenda Jackson in the March
TATLER

Acts of self-defence

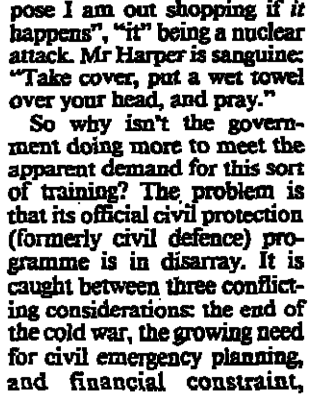
Is Dad's Army enough protection against terrorism?

SOLID burghers such as 64-year-old David Harper would not normally be found in a "noddy" suit. His regular attire is pin-striped and his natural habitat the City of London, where he runs a firm of loss adjusters. This evening, however, he will climb into a nuclear, biological and chemical (NBC) protection suit, in front of 40 concerned people in a hall in Richmond, Surrey.

Mr Harper runs the local branch of Civil Aid, a voluntary agency with 1,000 members nationwide. Sounding like a relic from Dad's Army, Civil Aid tries to maintain the kind of local preparedness against attacks and emergencies which the Civil Defence Corps provided until it was disbanded in 1968.

In recent years its activities have been limited to a precautionary presence at open-air pop concerts. But now, after four weeks of the Gulf war and following an article about Civil Aid in the local press, Mr Harper has agreed to hold a three-week course, including advice on how to respond to a gas attack. He believes that, in spite of their exemplary sang-froid, Britons are starting to worry about terrorist attacks involving chemical or nuclear weapons. "Some residents are petrified," he says. "They've been asking for gas masks."

During the course Mr Harper aims to examine the Iraqi threat in Britain. He expects there could be a number of terrorist incidents in Britain, and will provide information on the range of weapons — from hand-guns and high explosives to chemical and biological agents — in use today. He will demonstrate not just "advance protection for the family" (from sealing windows to dealing with fires), but also protective clothing, ranging from nerve gas respirators to the full NBC suit. One further topic is coyly mentioned in the prospectus, titled "Suppose I am out shopping if *it* happens", "it" being a nuclear attack. Mr Harper is sanguine: "Take cover, put a wet towel over your head, and pray."



Civil guard: David Harper

So why isn't the government doing more to meet the apparent demand for this sort of training? The problem is that its official civil protection (formerly civil defence) programme is in disarray. It is caught between three conflicting considerations: the end of the cold war, the growing need for civil emergency planning, and financial constraint, particularly in the light of the community charge.

According to current regulations, which are under review, local authorities have a statutory duty to prepare for war. They receive £27 million a year from the government to do so. In return for this largesse, they must be able, in the event of war, to take certain measures such as getting their emergency centres operational within 48 hours, and getting ration documents issued within a week.

However, since thinking has moved in the direction of "all hazards" emergency planning, local authorities are also empowered (although not required) to prepare for peacetime disasters, ranging from extremes of weather to large-scale transport accidents. But they are given no specific funds for this. So emergency planning officers are often faced with the choice of either ignoring their legal obligation to prepare for war, or cannibalising civil defence grants to cater for potential peacetime disasters.

In the emergency operations centre (in popular parlance, nuclear bunker) under Hertford's county hall last week, David Moses, the county's chief emergency planning officer, was checking the communications network (telephones, telex, faxes and radios) which is the most visible sign of spending on civil defence. However, he admits his county "has not fully developed its emergency centre to reach existing wartime criteria". The £100,000 second phase of the centre's construction has not been started because last November the government put a moratorium on capital spending on civil protection.

THE home secretary is due to publish his civil defence review in the summer. In the light of events in the Gulf, Mr Moses, who is also president of the Society of County Emergency Planning Officers, would not be disappointed if he took a little more time.

"Over the past year we've had this euphoria that peace has broken out," he says. "We now need to look at this area a little harder and longer."

ANDREW LYCETT

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notice to first direct customers

with effect from
13 february 1991
first direct base
rate is decreased
by 0.5% p.a.
from 14% p.a.
to **13.5% p.a.**

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the following
changes to
interest rates:

debit interest	from	to
flexiloan	21% p.a.	20.5% p.a.
homeowner reserve	17.5% p.a.	17% p.a.
authorised overdraft rate cheque account up to £2,000	19% p.a. (base rate +5%)	18.5% p.a. (base rate +5%)
authorised overdraft rate premier cheque account up to £10,000	16.5% p.a. (base rate +2.5%)	16% p.a. (base rate +2.5%)

with effect from 15 february 1991

credit interest	
cheque account balance £1-£499	7% net p.a.
balance £500 and over	7.25% net p.a.
premier cheque account balance £1-£499	7.25% net p.a.
balance £500 and over	7.5% net p.a.

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GALLERIES

The importance of being Ernst

John Russell Taylor on the Tate Gallery's centenary celebration of the visionary German Surrealist

The trouble with most classic Surrealists is that they were Conceptual artists before the concept. They were ideas people, whose execution of their ideas in paint tended to be flatly mechanical. It was almost as if, once the moment of outrageous invention was past, anybody of moderate technical competence could put it on canvas. But there is one shining exception to this rule: Max Ernst, whose centenary is being celebrated with a grand retrospective at the Tate Gallery.

Even describing Ernst as a Surrealist requires qualification. He was certainly involved with the Surrealist movement in France in the Twenties and Thirties, and before that with the original Dada movement in Cologne. Many of his basic processes derive from a Surrealist fascination with the arbitrary and the accidental, automatic writing and the strange resonances of found objects. Much of his most compelling work was in the form specially favoured by Surrealists: collage. His sense of the ridiculous was stimulated by Victorian engravings and the saccharine excesses of popular religion, and nobody knew better how to manipulate bits and pieces into hilarious new compositions. This means that the Ernst show is one of the few in recent memory at which the viewer may not only smile appreciatively, but laugh outright. Yet it would be radically undervaluing him to suppose that his work stops at the easy guffaw.

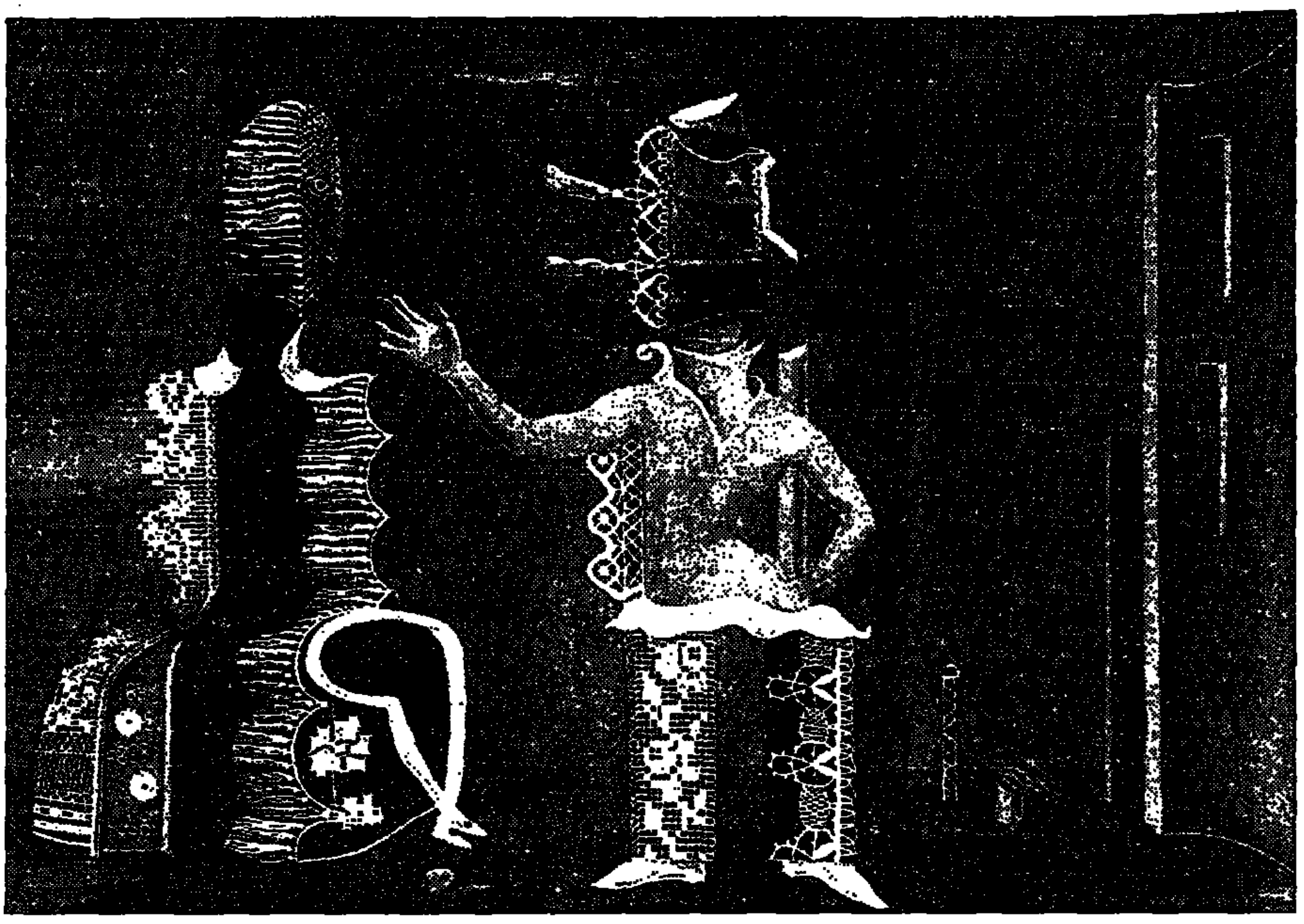
> *By giving himself over to free association, he uncovers disturbing nightmares*

The collages he put together in such pictorial "novels" as "La Femme 100 têtes" and "Rêve d'une petite fille qui voulut entrer au Carmel" are often funny — but also, as all good Surrealism should be, deeply disturbing. By giving himself over to, and pushing his audience into, free association, he constantly uncovers nightmares, turning a Romantic hero into a monster by the simple expedient of substituting a bird's head for the original, or allowing his fashionable maiden, unaccountably, to find supernumerary limbs poking out of her bodice.

But the peculiar force of these apparently marginal fantasies comes from Ernst's amazing skill as a painter. He knows exactly how to match textures, proportions and perspectives so that, until they are closely examined, the finished collages work with the insidious conviction of a good forgery. If some Victorian engraver had suddenly taken leave of his senses, this is precisely what he might have produced. This conviction irradiates all of Ernst's painting and, for that matter, the considerable body of sculpture which was gathered together for last year's Edinburgh Festival and is here represented only sporadically. Ernst may superficially qualify as a Surrealist. But he is really something much rarer and more impressive: a true visionary.

Conveying those visions was the one consistent business of his extraordinarily varied life. Sometimes he seems to be in deliberate flight from any national or stylistic label. Though he began in Cologne working alongside such local Expressionists as August Macke, the earliest pictures on show here, which date from the first world war, do not look at all German (indeed, if they resemble anything, it is the contemporary work of Chagall). Soon afterwards, when Ernst was apparently part of the Dada movement, his pictures veered towards the *Italianate*: he was obviously aware of what de Chirico and Carra were doing at this time, and recognised in it a vocabulary that he could use for his own purposes.

Like Picasso, Ernst never stopped to worry about whether he was being consistent: a style or an idea took his fancy, and he appropriated it, sublimely (and correctly) certain that if he was doing it, the end product would be unmistakably his. When he was German he did not look German; when French he did not look French. And when American, as he was between 1941 and 1953, he did not look American either. His style ranged wildly, depending on his mood and, partly, his surroundings. Always, however, it came from his world of dreams. His desert surroundings in Arizona in the Forties may well have inspired his science-fiction landscapes built of sand and cora. But elsewhere are similar ideas in paintings that he did years before he had ever set eyes on Sedona.



Fine match of textures, proportions and perspectives: Max Ernst's 1923 oil, "The Couple", on show at the Tate Gallery

Here and there he hovers on the verge of kitsch, as in some of the "snow flower" and butterfly paintings of the early Thirties. After all, it would not be possible to parody kitsch so effectively if one did not have some sneaking regard for it to begin with. There is little sign that outside circumstances had much effect on Ernst, though it is probably not coincidental that one of his most frightening creations, the "Fireside Angel" of 1937, impends sinisterly over its landscape in a way that instantly recalls the contemporary reactions of Picasso and Dali to the Spanish Civil War.

When, in paintings such as "Chemical Nuptials" and "Design in Nature" of 1948/49, he unpredictably reverts to the Italian influences of his youth, the result is powerful and moving. But sometimes he seems to be harking back to abandoned styles and influences because he is merely vamping until ready. In this he was probably most like Picasso: he had to keep working.

Moreover, the strength of Ernst's vision is evident not only in the number of disparate influences he was able to absorb, but also in the number of disparate artists that he in turn influenced. Sometimes, no doubt, the influence has been indirect, Ernst filtered through advertising and the movies. But surely the film director David Lynch, when he created the opening sequences of *Blue Velvet*, must have been well aware of Ernst's extraordinary undergrowth pictures like "La joie de vivre".

Ernst has the quality (unfortunately rare in those commemorated at length) of leaving visitors to even the largest collection of his work wanting more. The show of Ernst which simultaneously opens Fischer Fine Art's beautified galleries contains work as good as any except the very greatest at the Tate. And it is noticeable how many of the exhibits come from private collections. If Ernst is not yet among the most expensive of modern masters, it is clearly only a matter of time and opportunity to buy. Neither of which need be any impediment to making the most of this chance: anybody who is not familiar with one of the greatest of modern masters should lose no time in becoming acquainted.

Max Ernst: A Retrospective Tate Gallery, Millbank, SW1 (071-821 7128). Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2pm-6pm, until Apr 21.
Max Ernst 1891-1976 Fischer Fine Art, 30 King Street, SW1 (071-839 3942). Mon-Fri 10am- 5.30pm, Sat 10am-1pm, until Mar 15.

CRITIC'S CHOICE

WRIT IN WATER: Edward Lear managed in the course of his career to paint in watercolour many of the most fascinating places in the eastern Mediterranean. Sir Steven Runciman has visited and studied most of them in his time, and his collection of Lear watercolours reflects the range of his interests as well as of Lear's talents.
Watercolours by Edward Lear National Gallery of Scotland, The Mound, Edinburgh (031- 556 8921). Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2pm-6pm, until April 28.

ART OF LOVE: Venus and Cupid are the subject of a considerable amount of mythological art in Old Masters, major and minor. To celebrate St Valentine's Day, Wildenstein has collected a variety of pieces, from Fragonard to Goya and Huet to Eisen.
Venus and Cupid Wildenstein and Co, 147 New Bond Street, W1 (071-493 3924). Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, until March 28.

LIGHT IN THE WINDOW: After their triumphant tour of London, Paris and New York as part of the great Wright of Derby exhibition, 16 of Derby Art Gallery's pictures have returned permanently to their own gallery, newly refurbished while they were away. Their return is accompanied by a week of special events.
Welcome Home Joseph Wright City Museum and Art Gallery, The Strand, Derby (0332 255586) Mon 11am-5pm, Tues-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2pm-5pm.

PRIZE WINNERS: This year the annual Hunting Group painting award is co-sponsored by *The Observer*, and the winner and runners-up are on show at the Mall Galleries. The winner, Barry Burman's "MANAC.ES", is a portrait inspired by medieval wall-paintings and icons; the second prizes go to Ashley Hanson and Justin Mortimer. As usual, well worth a look.
Hunting/Observer Exhibition Mall Galleries, The Mall, SW1 (071-930 6844). Daily 10am-5pm, until Feb 23.

MOONSTRUCK: Painting moonlit scenes has been an Italian tradition since the Renaissance — first as a telling background to religious subjects, then just for their own sake. This show proposes a new genre, and gets together a lot of wonderful works to prove its point.
Italy By Moonlight Accademia Italiana, 24 Rutland Gate SW7 (071-225 3474). Tues to Sat 10am-8pm, Sun 2pm-5.30pm, until March 2.

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR

RECORDS: ROCK

Ricocheting ballads from Nineties hit-men

LIONISED by the cognoscenti, banned by the BBC and patronised by Brits impresario Jonathan King, Carter The Unstoppable Sex Machine offers a sturdy version of the punk credo updated for the Nineties. As the name suggests, Carter U.S.M. is on the lookout for any gratuitous controversy that is going. Singing about racist bigotry in the Coldstream Guards on the single "Bloodsport for All" is hardly going to endear the South London duo to radio programmers in the current political climate.

As songwriters the Carters combine Shane MacGowan's lyrical [illegible]s with Joe Strummer's [illegible]-rock pose. The result on 30 Something is a grim litany of alcohol abuse, death on the battlefield, urban decay, wife battering and consumerist greed set against a backdrop of a pounding mechanised beat. Far more spirited and direct than any of the baggy brigade's music, it is a stunning evocation of post-adolescent *Angst* that penetrates swiftly then ricochets angrily round the brain.

Carter The Unstoppable Sex Machine: 30 Something
(Rough Trade R20112701)
Blue Rodeo: Casino
(Atlantic 9031-72770-2)
Bob Marley & The Wailers: Talkin' Blues (Tuff Gong TGLCD 12)

Blue Rodeo's besetting lack of an image has not been alleviated by a stint playing the part of Meryl Streep's backing band in the film *Postcards from the Edge*, in which the five young musicians look disconcertingly convincing as somebody else's hired hands.

Still, they are "big" in Canada, which is where they come from, and as a lovingly observed chunk of retro-rock in a Band/Byrds mould their third album, Casino, has its moments. The collection is characterised by the faintly out-of-tune harmonica, tootling away on "What am I Doing Here", the burst of psychedelic backwards guitar on "Time" and a lot of swelling organ and rootsy, acoustic guitar throughout.

Like those Hovis television advertisements, the impression is of an elegant facsimile from a bygone era; a comforting sound, but hardly the genuine article.

Bob Marley's Talkin' Blues captures the sound of a true original. Recorded live in 1973 for an American radio broadcast, it incorporates two previously unreleased tracks and many favourites in a joyful and timely celebration of a sorely missed talent.

DAVID SINCLAIR

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Baritone JOHN CASHMORE
Overture WILLIAM TELL, O Silver Moon RUSALKA, Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves NABUCCO, Habanera & Chorus CARMEN, Duet PEARL FISHERS, Easter Hymn & Intermezzo CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA, Finale Act 2 NABUCCO, Nessun Dorma & Final Scene TURANDOT, Grand March & Ballet Music AIDA, Softly awakes my heart SAMSON & DALILAH, Largo al factotum BARBER OF SEVILLE, Anvil Chorus IL TROVATORE, Vissi d'arte TOSCA, La donna e mobile & Quartet RIGOLETTO
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TICKETS: Royal Albert Hall Box Office & CC 071-589 8212 / 071-823 9993 / 071-225 0755 cc Hotline 071-379 4444 (Open All Hours (24 Hrs) & usual agents

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Speaking up for dangerous liaison

Cynics will say it is just a matter of record companies cashing in on glamorous names, but there is suddenly a flush of recordings of music with a place for the spoken word. Virgin Classics offers Sir John Gielgud musing with Herman Melville in *The Encantadas* by Tobias Picker.

For the same company, Delphine Seyrig hits the right notes of sophisticated weariness and sudden pleasure in reading the erotic Grecian verses of the Debussy-Louys *Chansons de Bilitis*. Meanwhile, on Deutsche Grammophon, Sting reads the story of Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf* and Marthe Keller and Georges Wilson lead the speaking cast in the Honegger-Claudel *Jeanne d'Arc au bûcher*.

The urge to combine music and speech is an especially 20th-century phenomenon. There are predecessors, such as in *Zaide* and *Fidelio*, but there the music is more punctuation than underlay, perhaps because Mozart and Beethoven realised that putting simultaneous music and speech together causes a difficulty. A singing voice brings words into the ambit of music; a speaking voice declares its separateness.

Perhaps this is essentially because we comprehend speech in clumps, in words and groups of words. In whatever way we comprehend music, it is certainly not always in such a seemingly formalised and discontinuous way. Also, the sounds of words are not particularly important in everyday speech. Indeed, as soon as we recognise a sound as a word, it stops being a sound.

If music and speech are in all these ways alien, that only makes their combination an obvious goal for 20th-century modernism. So it is not suprising that both Schoenberg and Stravinsky should have attempted to overcome the divide: Stravinsky in *The Soldier's Tale* and *Persephone*, Schoenberg in *Pierrot lunaire*.

Nor is it surprising that their efforts should have been radically different. *The Soldier's Tale* keeps the two elements largely separate, in a balance of frictions, whereas Schoenberg's invention of *Sprechgesang* clamps them together in a dangerous, untoward unity: the work's anxieties and ironies spring partly from this uncertainty about whether the soloist is speaking or singing. In both cases, the embarrassment of speech in music becomes essential, in the way that the parallel embarrassment of written words appearing in a painting becomes essential in certain Picassos and Magrittes.

Debussy's *Chansons de Bilitis* music was written for a recitation, just as his *Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune* was intended to precede a reading of Mallarmé's poem. The music stays largely separate, flowing between the verses as interludes, but this is genuinely a work of speech and music: the musical gestures are sparked off by the rhythms and imagery of the poems. The Virgin record (VC 7 91148-2) provides a beautiful performance by Seyrig and members of the Nash Ensemble, who usefully place the work in the context of Debussy's late sonatas and another Hellenistic fantasy, the solo flute piece, *Syrinx*.

Honegger's *Jeanne d'Arc* (DG 429 412-2) has the quality of a film without pictures, reminding one that the art of melodrama reached its apogee in the films of this period, the 1930s, though usually at the expense of placing the music in the background. So it is, here, in those passages where the dialogue is spoken, though the music weaves also through sung set pieces, with an orchestra including the spectacular electronic ondes martenot. Seiji Ozawa conducts a celebratory performance with Radio France forces.

PAUL GRIFFITHS

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A poisonous insect's triumph

THEATRE

The Visit
Lyttelton

THIS brings to the National the wandering mummers who, though English-speaking, quaintly call themselves the Théâtre de Complicité and are noted for a physical chutzpah rarely associated with performers this side of the Channel. Their choice of play may, then, surprise those who remember the sober, even sombre production *The Visit* received when the Lunts performed it in the late 1950s. Yet Friedrich Dürrenmatt, its author, called it a comedy and said that "heavy seriousness" was above all to be avoided by its actors. Complicité has certainly heeded his words.

The reason critics are apt to wax solemn about the piece is that they see it as that deadly thing, a key work of the post-war era. The zillionaire Clara Zachanassian returns to the town she left in disgrace aeons ago, bent on exacting retribution on the man who seduced her. If the citizens kill Alfred Schill, she will give them what the original text called "a million" but, thanks to inflation, Annabel Arden's revival ups to a "billion". Whether this means pounds, marks, or francs is not clear. For the people of Guellen, deep in depression, it is enough.

Gradually, a play about revenge becomes one about moral compromise. At first the indignant Guellenites remember that Goethe stayed in their town and Brahms wrote a quartet there. They talk importantly of Europe's culture and humane traditions, adding (more updating here) that "this isn't the Middle East". But then they start buying new shoes, expensive brandy, minks, cars; and all on credit. There is only one way of meeting the bills. By the end the citizens, without meaning to, have consented to murder and called it justice.

Dürrenmatt's play has its realistic moments, and Arden's production respects the more important. In particular, Simon McBurney plays Schill as a perfectly unremarkable fellow, an affable weakling whose ingratiating laughter turns to panic and finally to a dull if dignified stoicism as he realises escape is impossible. But Dürrenmatt does also deal in caricature, never more so than when Clara appears, walking on mechanical legs and attended by blind eunuchs.

This is where Complicité comes triumphantly into its own. Clara compares herself to a "poison mushroom" and, as Kathryn Hunter plays her, she is that and much more. A gash of red, presumably her lips, crosses her fungoid features, and black furs and green-and-purple silks swathe the parts beneath. She walks in jerks, like some tiny, malevolent stick-insect. When she laughs, it is hard to know if she is coughing, whimpering, or creaking.

From the start, the physical invention is similarly impressive. The Guellenites mope round the railway station in dowdy, splattered clothes, looking as if gruel is something they swim in as well as subsist on. Then they reel back as an express screeches by, flinging rubbish across the platform and dust into their eyes: a reaction so detailed that the audience spontaneously applauded. So the evening continues, with a spoof ballet here, a comically stylised supper there, and a slow, sinister death to end it all. Meanwhile, the actors skilfully change costumes, roles and even species, at one point doubling as trees in the local forest.

DONALD COOPER

Carried by the blind: Kathryn Hunter as Clara Zachanassian

The decor is rough, mostly decaying walls, a tattered curtain, a jumble of old tables and chairs; and the production's sum effect, despite the odd tricksy moment, is equally blunt, immediate and to-the-point. Clara has been interpreted as Hitler, the Marshall Plan, the German economic miracle. But all such comparisons are too specific. She is what asks us, here, to sell our consciences for security and our souls for wealth: contemporary temptation, raised to memorably gaudy extremes.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

THEATRE

The Winter Wife
Nuffield, Southampton

IS IT bad for the box office to call a play elegant as well as sturdy? I hope not, because both those terms properly belong to Claire Tomalin's first play, dramatising the events in one of the last winters in the life of a famous young woman.

The Winter Wife is set in a villa in the South of France in 1920-21. "About Jayne Mansfield, is it?", asked the lady behind me of her neighbour. Well, half right, but in fact Katherine, the finest short story writer of her day. Unlike Galsworthy, so fervently admired by her companion, Ida Baker, for "putting everything in", Mansfield had a perception of character and event so acute that she could leave out what most writers stuff in and could thereby isolate the fluttering essence of a life.

Though married to the odiously stingy Middleton Murry in these last years of her life, Mansfield is not the wife of the title. This is the devoted Ida, whom she called "Jones" or even "Jonesy", sometimes affectionately but as often with a spitefulness intended to wound. Without Ida's fond fussing she would have died of her TB and from what Murry daintily veiled as "a rheumatic fever", several years earlier. One of Tomalin's achievements is to have brought honour to this nervous yet determined friend, who was to outlive her idol by nearly 60 years.

In the open rooms of the Villa Isola Bella, set, in Tanya McCallin's excellent design, against a tilted square of Matisse-blue sea, the difficult relationship between the two women is caught with a precision that recalls Mansfield's own lucid style. Rachel Joyce's Mansfield is a frail, injured lioness — or perhaps a more graceful animal, a lynx or cheetah, born for speed but obliged to limp. Her petulance, the explosions of impatient rage, identify the short fuse of the frighteningly ill. It is a compelling study of feverish genius forced to admit dependence upon someone who will never pronounce Avignon correctly.

Beautifully counter-balancing this performance is Gabrielle Lloyd's Ida, chirruping little bursts of excitement as she opens a sun-shade, popping grapes, biscuits, or a crystallised plum into her mouth as she trots between terrace and bedroom. She flutters, she is hurt, she tenderly loves.

Blended into the story is the attentive cook, Marie (Pamela Ruddock), and the skilfully created Dr Bouchage, played with grave tenderness by Michael Irving. Patrick Sandford's sensitively paced production of this accomplished and, yes, elegant play comes to the Lyric, Hammersmith, in March.

JEREMY KINGSTON

OPERA

La fanciulla del West
La Scala, Milan

PUCCINI rarely moved further away from *verismo* than he did in *La fanciulla del West*: the Wild West was for him almost as mythical a location as the ancient China of *Turandot*, and therefore seemed a suitable setting for his homely attempt at the Wagnerian salvation-through-woman theme (an interesting inversion of his usual topic, perdition-through-love).

But Jonathan Miller, producing at La Scala for the first time, has supplanted the stereotypes envisaged by the composer with more realistic images: the traditional gallery of colourful characters in a picturesque saloon bar becomes a grey squad of weary men in a bleak warehouse where they hang about after work. The great Californian forest has been chopped down, and in its place Stefanos Lazaridis has erected a grimy minehead, with all its unromantic trappings.

Puccini would be appalled, but he might also be surprised at how clearly his intentions survive. Having darkened the lives of the other characters, Miller whitewashes the heroine, and the widened gap between the prim, freshly-laundered Minnie and the miserable crowd she holds in the palm of her hand accentuates her unreality — she is not so much a character as a symbol of their hope of redemption. If anything, the opera appears less inept than usual, and the miners' nostalgia more poignant.

Restrained: Placido Domingo

Mara Zampieri throws herself into the title role with plenty of passion and a strident, unpredictable voice. Placido Domingo is at times rather too restrained as the noble bandit, but rises magnificently to all the big moments, his breadth of phrase and generosity of emotion as exceptional as ever. Lorin Maazel and the orchestra revel in the score's sentiment and positively indulge themselves in its savagery.

NIGEL JAMIESON

CONCERT

ECO/Davis
Barbican Hall

ONLY two concerts in the entire schedule of the English Chamber Orchestra's Mozart 200 series feature the conducting of Sir Colin Davis. One is due to happen this October; the other, devoted to music composed in 1773-4, took place last night. That no more will be seen of him is a pity, for he has always been a marvellous Mozartian, and gets better as he gets older. Here his floating rhythms and his refusal to allow a single moment to pass by as an irrelevance infected the ECO with a keenness and concentration often absent in their recent work.

Probably the toughest of the four pieces for this encouragingly large audience was the Concertone in C for two violins and orchestra, K190, which also includes significant solo parts for oboe (Neil Black) and cello (Olga Hegedus). Though it was also adorned with the leavening effect of a harpsichord continuo, the concerto was slightly spoilt by an incongruous style of solo violin playing. Stephanie Gonley and, especially, José-Luis Garcia pushed their tone too hard, while their phrasing lacked the light and shade essential for the spacious musical style.

Symphony No 26 in E flat major, K184, is far more compact a work, cast in the Italianate form, derived from the opera overture, of three brief, connected movements, fast-slow-fast. A formidable profusion of ideas, pregnant with developmental possibilities, teems from the adolescent Mozart's head. Meticulous articulation was coupled here with vital spontaneity.

After such a piece, the eight movements, including three Minuets, of the Serenade in D, K203, might have seemed a dauntingly formal prospect, but Sir Colin had other ideas. Its climax was the long Andante, the sixth movement, in which Black's beautifully shaped solo oboe again took centre stage, showing just the right degree of fragility. As if to pay him a compliment for his delicate *pianissimo*, the horns were touched in near the end with a wondrous gentleness, before the movement trailed off in its disarmingly modest way.

That was typical of Davis's care in balancing the texture, and it worked equally to the music's advantage in Joan Rodgers's singing of the motet *Exsultate, jubilate*, which displayed a wonderfully agile voice and a sensitive insight into drama and style.

STEPHEN PETTITT

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country.

NEW RELEASES

◆ THE ADVENTURES OF FORD FAIRLANE (18): Infantile spoof thriller set in LA's music industry: a calamitous vehicle for a rude stand-up comic, Andrew Dice Clay. Cannon Oxford Street (071-636 0310).

COLD DOG SOUP (15): Unfunny crazy comedy about an all-night quest to get rid of a dead dog. Randy Quaid, Frank Whaley, Christine Harnos; director Alan Metter. Odeon Mezzanine (071-930 6111).

I HIRED A CONTRACT KILLER (15): Aki Kaurismäki's absurdist English comedy about a lonely civil servant (Jean-Pierre Léaud) bent on suicide. Initially droll, but disappointing. Electric (071-792 2020) Camden Plaza (071-485 2443).

◆ MEN AT WORK (12): Idiotic low-brow comedy from writer-star-director Emilio Estevez, teamed with brother Charlie Sheen as anarchic garbage collectors. Cannons: Chelsea (071-352 5096) Haymarket (071-839 1527) Oxford Street (071-636 0310).

MILLER'S CROSSING (18): Prohibition gang warfare from the brothers Coen: brooding, labyrinthine, over-laden with words and smart artifice. Gabriel Byrne, Albert Finney. Camden Parkway (071-267 7034). Cannons: Haymarket (071-839 1527) Oxford Street (071-636 0310) Gate (071-727 4043).

TO SLEEP WITH ANGER (12): Charles Burnett's magical tale of a surprise visitor (Danny Glover) bringing superstition and evil into a troubled Los Angeles family. Metro (071-437 0757).

CURRENT

◆ ARACHNOPHOBIA (PG): Deadly spiders rampage through a cosy Californian community. Enjoyable thriller filled with humour and suspense tricks. Cannon Oxford Street (071-636 0310). Odeon Mezzanine (071-930 6111) Plaza (071-497 9999) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

CYRANO DE BERGERAC (U): Gerard Depardieu masterful as the lovelorn, long-nosed Cyrano; director Jean-Paul Rappeneau transforms Rostand's play into magnificent, swashbuckling cinema. Chelsea Cinema (071-351 3742) Lumière (071-836 0691) Renoir (071-837 8402).

DANCES WITH WOLVES (12): Kevin Costner as the Civil War lieutenant sucked into the Sioux's way of life. Over-reverent, though Costner mounts his directorial debut with aplomb. Cannons: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Shaftesbury Avenue (071-836 6861) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324) Warner (071-439 0791).

DECEMBER BRIDE (PG): Irish tale of a strong-willed servant girl, bogged down by dour atmosphere, but enlivened by Saskia Reeves. Director Thaddeus O'Sullivan. Curzon Phoenix (071-240 9661).

DUCKTALES THE MOVIE — TREASURE OF THE LOST LAMP (U): Disney cartoon feature with Scrooge McDuck: crammed with gags, but lacking a vital spark. Director Bob Hathcock. Cannons: Oxford Street (071-636 0310) Panton Street (071-930 0631) Odeon Kensington (071-602 6644/5) Marble Arch (071-723 2011) Swiss Cottage (071-722 5905) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

◆ GHOST (12): Jerry Zucker's supernatural thriller, with Patrick Swayze as the ghost of a mugger's victim desperate to contact his endangered girlfriend (Demi Moore). Bizarre, incoherent, but absorbing while it lasts. Empire (071-497 9999).

◆ GOODFELLAS (18): Martin Scorsese's dynamic gangster epic following a New York hoodlum's rise and fall. Ray Liotta is easily outgunned by the supporting players, Joe Pesci and Robert De Niro. Cannon Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Warner (071-439 0791).

◆ THE GRIFTERS (18): Stephen Frears' depressed version of Jim Thompson's con-artist thriller. John Cusack, Anjelica Huston, Annette Bening, stranded in a glossy limbo. Cannons: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Haymarket (071-839 1527) Screen on the Green (071-226 3520) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324) Warner (071-439 0791).

◆ HAVANA (15): Robert Redford as the gambler entranced by a mystery woman (Lena Olin) during Castro's revolution. Sluggish romantic drama with paper-thin characters. Director Sydney Pollack. Cannon Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Plaza (071-497 9999) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

◆ KINDERGARTEN COP (12): Uptight cop (Arnold Schwarzenegger) becomes kindergarten teacher. Bland, cute comedy, awkwardly mixed with violent shoot-outs. Cannons: Baker Street (071-935 9772) Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Empire (071-497 9999) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

METROPOLITAN (15): Whit Stillman's wickedly ironic comedy of manners set among New York's debutantes and preppies over one Christmas holiday. Witty dialogue, engaging young actors, elegant direction: a delight. With Edward Clements, Carolyn Farina. Cannon Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) Minema (071-235 4225).

◆ MIRACLE MILE (15): Two shy lovers find their romance interrupted by an impending nuclear attack. Bright, stylish drama from promising director Steve De Jarnatt. Anthony Edwards, Mare Winningham. Cannon Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148).

THE NASTY GIRL (PG): Provocative, funny assault on Germany's Nazi past, with Lena Stolze as the girl uncovering her home town's shady history. Cannon Chelsea (071-352 5096) Metro (071-437 0757) Screen on Baker Street (071-935 2772).

POSTCARDS FROM THE EDGE (15): Caustic Tinseltown comedy, with a few tears, from Carrie Fisher's novel. Meryl Streep as the drug-abused actress; Shirley MacLaine as her mother. Director, Mike Nichols. Barbican (071-638 8891) Cannons: Chelsea (071-352 5096) Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) Odeons: Kensington (071-602 6644/5) Mezzanine (071-930 6111) Screen on the Hill (071-435 3366) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

◆ PRETTY WOMAN (15): Shamelessly old-fashioned romantic comedy, given a lift by Julia Roberts as a gawky prostitute who softens the crust of ruthless businessman Richard Gere. Director Garry Marshall. Warner (071-439 0791).

◆ REVERSAL OF FORTUNE (15): Oscar nominee Jeremy Irons as the inscrutable Claus von Bülow, tried for the attempted murder of his wife. Brilliant unravelling of a recent enigma; director Barbet Schroeder. Camden Parkway (071-267 7034) Cannon Panton Street (071-930 0631) Odeons: Kensington (071-602 6644/5) Swiss Cottage (071-722 5905).

THE SHELTERING SKY (18): A chilling novel (by Paul Bowles) filmed with a warming visual sweep by Bernardo Bertolucci. With John Malkovich and Debra Winger. Odeons: Kensington (071-602 6644/5) Mezzanine (071-930 6111) Plaza (071-497 9999) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

SHORT TIME (12): Dabney Coleman as a cop who believes he has a fatal illness. Ignore the sentiment and savour the black comedy. Director Gregg Champion. Odeon Haymarket (071-839 7697).

◆ THREE MEN AND A LITTLE LADY (PG): Horrendous sequel to *Three Men and a Baby*, piled high with archaic comedy wheezes. With Tom Selleck, Ted Danson, Steve Guttenberg. Director, Emile Ardolino. Cannon Chelsea (071-352 5096) Notting Hill Coronet (071-727 6705) Odeons: Kensington (071-602 6644/5) Leicester Square (071-930 6111) Swiss Cottage (071-722 5905) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

THE UNBELIEVABLE TRUTH (15): Engaging, deadpan comedy of small-town manners from tyro director Hal Hartley. Robert Burke, Adrienne Shelly. Cannon Piccadilly (071-437 3561).

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of current theatre in London
■ House full, returns only
▨ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

▨ BETRAYAL: Pinter's backwards look at an adultery: groping content, but awestruck production. Almeida, Almeida Street N1 (071-359 4404). Underground: Highbury & Islington. Mon-Sat 8pm, mat Sat 4pm. Running time: 1hr 30mins. Closes March 2.

☐ THE CORN IS GREEN: Patricia Routledge in revival of Emlyn Williams's first-staged success, now past its sell-by date. Greenwich, Crooms Hill, SE10 (081-858 7755). British Rail: Greenwich. Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm.

▨ GASPING: John Gordon Sinclair and Jim Carter in Ben Elton's greenish comedy. Rather over the top but lots of laughs. Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071-930 8800). Underground: Piccadilly. Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat 8.30pm, mat Sat 5pm. Running time: 2hrs 30mins. Last week.

▨ THE HOMECOMING: Warren Mitchell and others seducing and seduced by Cherie Lunghi in Peter Hall's Pinter revival. Comedy, Panton Street, W1 (071-867 1045). Underground: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed 3pm, Sat 5pm. Running time: 2hrs 15mins.

▨ IMAGINE DROWNING: Simple comedy, moral confusion and marine baptism mix awkwardly in Terry Johnson's sementous drama. Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (071-722 9301). Underground: Hampstead. Mon-Sat 8pm, mat Sat 4pm. Running time: 2hrs 20mins. Closes March 2.

▨ INTO THE WOODS: Sondheim's witty mix of fairytales, grimmer than Grimm in the first half, turns sloshy thereafter. Phoenix, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-240 9661). Underground: Tottenham Court Road. Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Thurs, Sat, 2.30pm. Running time: 2hrs 50mins. Closes February 23.

☐ I THOUGHT I HEARD A RUSTLING: Annette Crosbie and Paul Copley in a meandering but chirpy Alan Plater comedy. Theatre Royal, Stratford East, Gerry Raffles Square, E15 (081-534 0310). Underground/BR: Stratford. Mon-Sat, 8pm. Running time: 2hrs. Closes March 2.

☐ THE KING AND I: Susan Hampshire and Koshiro Matsumoto IX in an old fashioned show packed with a wealth of hit songs. Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (071-278 8916). Underground: Angel. Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm. Running time: 2hrs 50mins. Closes March 30.

▨ THE MERCHANT OF VENICE/VOLPONE: Two tricksy English Shakespeare Company productions. *The Merchant* set in Mussolini's Italy, somewhat redeemed by John Woodvine's foxy Volpone and his powerful Shylock. Lyric Hammersmith, King Street, W6 (081-741 2311). Underground: Hammersmith. *The Merchant* tonight, tomorrow, 7.30pm; *Volpone* mat tomorrow, 2.30pm. Closes March 2.

☐ OUT OF ORDER: Donald Sinden puffs, Michael Williams panics in latest Ray Cooney farce, over-plotted, under-developed. Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399). Underground: Holborn. Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 5.30pm. Running time: 2hrs 15mins.

☐ RACING DEMON: David Hare's award-winning state-of-the-church drama. National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Underground/BR: Waterloo. Tonight, tomorrow, 7.15pm, mat tomorrow, 2pm. Running time: 2hrs 50mins.

☐ THE REHEARSAL: Ian McDiarmid's stylish production (costumes by Jasper Conran) of Anouilh's seduction play. Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-379 6107). Underground: Leicester Square. Mon-Fri, 7.45pm, Sat, 8pm, mats Tues, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. Running time: 2hrs 30mins.

☐ THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW: Raucous and wild (in the upper circle mainly), bold and bizarre, sometimes deafening, sometimes inaudible rock musical. Piccadilly, Denman Street, W1 (071-867 1118). Underground: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 7pm and 9.15pm. Running time: 1hr 30mins.

▨ ROUTES TO FREEDOM: Edith Bone's imprisonment in Cold War Budapest: worthy if uneven piece, rich in detail on how to survive seven years' solitary. Watermans Arts Centre, 40 High Street, Brentford (081-568 1176). British Rail: Kew Bridge. Tonight, tomorrow, 8pm.

■ THREE SISTERS: Three Redgraves in admirable if over-busy production. Vanessa and Lynn outstanding as the older women. Queen's, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-734 1166). Underground: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm. Running time: 3hrs. Closes March 2.

☐ TIME AND THE CONWAYS: Joan Plowright and lots of other Oliviers in Priestley's dullish play, set in 1919 (twice) and 1938. Old Vic, Waterloo Road, SE1 (071-928 7616). Underground: Waterloo. Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 4pm. Running time: 2hrs 35mins. Last week.

☐ WHERE JULIE GONE: Jaqueline Harrison's poignant, anecdotal account of life as an unsatisfied wife, waitress and model. Hen & Chickens, Highbury Corner, N1 (071-359 1090). Underground: Highbury & Islington. Tues-Sun, 8pm. Running time: 2hrs 30mins. Last week.

LONG RUNNERS: ☐ Absurd Person Singular: Whitehall (071-867 1119) . . . ■ Aspects of Love: Prince of Wales (071-839 5972) . . . ▨ Blood Brothers: Albery (071-867 1115) . . . ▨ Buddy: Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) . . . ■ Cats: New London (071-405 0072) . . . ☐ Hidden Laughter: Vaudeville (071-836 9987) . . . ☐ Me and My Girl: Adelphi (071-836 7611) . . . ■ Les Misérables: Palace (071-434 0909) . . . ■ Miss Saigon: Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (071-836 8108) . . . ☐ The Mousetrap: St Martin's (071-836 1443) . . . ■ The Phantom of the Opera: Her Majesty's (071-839 2244) . . . ☐ Return to the Forbidden Planet: Cambridge (071-379 5299) . . . ☐ Run For Your Wife: Duchess (071-836 8243) . . . ■ Shirley Valentine: Duke of York's (071-836 5122) . . . ☐ A Slice of Saturday Night: Arts (071-836 2132) . . . ▨ Starlight Express: Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) . . . ☐ The Woman in Black: Fortune (071-836 2238)

Ticket information on member theatres supplied by Society of West End Theatre

TODAY'S EVENTS

BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: German conductor Günter Wand is replaced by Stephen Bishop-Kovacevich who now conducts an all-Mozart programme which includes the composer's Flute Concerto in G major, K313 (with soloist David Butt), and his Symphonies No 39 in E flat major, K543 and No 40 in G minor, K550. Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800), 7.30pm.

THE PARLEY OF INSTRUMENTS: The excellent Renaissance and Baroque string consort performs John Dowland's *Lachrimae Pavans* together with works by his contemporaries Sommer, Schein, Scheidt, Rognoni and Thomas Simpson. St John's, Smith Square, London SW1 (071-222 1061), 7.30pm.

WINTER DREAMS: Sir Kenneth MacMillan's latest ballet, despite its flaws, is deemed to be his most successful in recent years — tonight danced by Irek Mukhamedov, Anthony Dowell, Darcey Bussell, Viviana Durante, Stephen Wicks, Adam Cooper and Nicola Tranah. The triple bill includes MacMillan's earlier work *Danses concertantes* and Nureyev's restaged version of Petipa's *Raymonda Act III* (with new designs by Barry Kay). Royal Ballet, Covent Garden, London, WC2 (071-240 1066/1911), 7.30pm.

JESUS JONES: The neurotically energetic, "international bright young things", fresh from their much-applauded appearance at last month's *Great British Music Weekend* and touring a new album *Doubt*. The tour finishes on February 27 at London's Town & Country Club. Mountford Hall, Liverpool University, Bedford Street, Liverpool (051-794 2000), 7.30pm.

THE CUNNING LITTLE VIXEN: Scottish Opera's long-running and magical Pountney-Björnson production of Janáček's animal morality play returns with Anne Dawson as the vixen and Alan Opie, John Graham-Hall and William McCue as the human beings askew in the natural world. The opera's current repertoire also includes *La Bohème* and *Fidelio*. Theatre Royal, Hope Street, Glasgow (041-332 9000), 7.15pm.

JAZZ WARRIORS: A value-for-money performance is guaranteed from the well-respected black jazz collective known for its top-class players and highly-charged compositions. The Stables, Wavendon, Milton Keynes (0908 583928), 8.15pm.

RA-RA ZOO: This madcap group provides a captivating mixture of visual theatre and contemporary circus, often death-defying but always funny. *Fabulous Beasts* is a new collaboration between dancers, circus performers and musicians under the supervision of Whale Nation director Roy Hutchins. Not for the faint-hearted. Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, London W6 (081-748 3354), 7.30pm.

THE PETER HALL COMPANY: The company finishes its short stay in Sheffield with a new production of Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*. The play opens at Theatre Royal, Brighton next week, before arriving for a limited season at London's Playhouse. Lyceum Theatre, Tudor Square, Sheffield (0742 769222), 7.45pm.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 22

SLEECH

(b) Slimy mud, a mud flat, adjective *sleechy*, orig. obsc.: "As the sea left the marshes by degrees, the tides brought up the mud with them, which mud we call sleech."

HALICORE

(a) Name of the genus of Sirenians, found in the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean, to which the dugong belongs, from the Greek *hals* the sea + *kore* a maiden, literally in Greek a sea-maiden or mermaid: "The dugong, typical of the genus Halicore, is a living form, ordinarily from ten to twelve feet long."

CUMSHAW

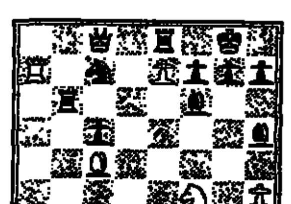
(a) A gift or tip, pidgin-English from the Chinese *kam-sia* grateful thanks, said by beggars: "Baldpate had the exceeding coolness to ask for a cumshaw as they left."

SKIPPET

(b) A flat box for protecting a seal, as of a document, orig. obsc.: "The seals of the different parties being preserved in silver skippets attached to the volumes by silken cords."

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent



This position is from the game Chandler — Olafsson, Foreign & Colonial Hastings Premier 1990/91. White to play and win. Solution tomorrow.

Solution to yesterday's position: 1 Nxd6! Qxd6 (1 ... Kxd6 2 Qe5+ and 3 Qxh8) 2 Rnd1 and if the Black queen moves, 3 Qe5+ is crushing.

ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 071 836 3161 cc 071 240 5258 cc 1st Call 071 240 7200 (24hr / 7 day) 071 379 4444 ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA Ton't 7.30 OEDIPUS REX · BLUEBEARD'S CASTLE Tomor 7.30 TURN OF THE SCREW

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 071 240 1066 / 1911 Standby info 836 6903 S CC 65 amphi seats avail on the day THE ROYAL BALLET Ton't 7.30 Manon Tomor 7.30 Danses Concertantes/Winter Dreams/Raymonda Act III

THEATRES

ALDWYCH 071 836 6404 cc 071 793 1000 (No Fee) & 24hr cc 836 2428/379 4444 (Bkg Fee) JULIAN CLARY IS CAMPING AT THE ALDWYCH Evg 8 Sats 5.30,8.30 Till March 9

ADELPHI 071 836 7611 CC 071 793 1000/071 379 4444 First Call 24hr cc 071 497 9977 (no bkg fee) Grps 071 930 6123 NOW BOOKING TO SEPT ME AND MY GIRL THE LAMBETH WALK MUSICAL Nightly at 7.30 Mats Wed at 2.30 & Sat 4.30 & 8.00 "THE HAPPIEST SHOW IN TOWN" Sunday Express

ALBERY BO & cc (no fee) 867 1115 cc (no fee) 867 1111/379 4444 bkg fee 793 1000/497 9977 BEST MUSICAL SWET Award 1983 WILLY RUSSELL'S BLOOD BROTHERS with STEPHANIE LAWRENCE "ASTONISHING...A Milestone in British Musicals" S Exp "...Brings the audience to its feet, and roaring its approval" D Mail Evgs 7.45 Mats Thurs 3 Sat 4

APOLLO VICTORIA SS 071 828 8665 cc 630 6262 Grps 828 6188 cc 24hr 579 4444/240 7200 071 793 1000 Grps 930 6123 Evgs 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.0 SEVENTH HIT YEAR STARLIGHT EXPRESS Music by ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER Lyrics by RICHARD STILGOE Directed by TREVOR NUNN SOME SEATS AVAIL THIS WEEK OAP's £5 on Tues Mats NOW BOOKING TO 28 SEPT

ALDWYCH B.O/CC 071 836 6404 Also CC (no bkg fee): 071 836 2428 (bkg fee) 071 793 1000 / 379 4444 LTD SEASON FROM 3 APRIL ENGLISH SHAKESPEARE COMPANY CORIOLANUS & THE WINTER'S TALE "Distinctive, popular and barnstorming" Ind.

CAMBRIDGE 071 379 5299 CC 071 379 4444 (24hr no Bkg Fee) 071 497 9977(24hr)/071 793 1000 (B Fees) Grps 071 240 7941 "Go in and Rock..." The Times BEST MUSICAL Olivier Awards 1990 RETURN TO THE FORBIDDEN PLANET "The brashest, boldest musical" C Limits "Breathless and bristling" D Mir Mon-Thu 8 Fri & Sat 5 & 8.30 All seats £8.50 Fri 5pm only "Deliriously addictive" D Tel "Awesome" What's On

COMEDY B.O 071 867 1045/1111cc Also CC (no bkg fee) 071 379 4444/497 9977 793 1000 "STUNNING...A POWERFUL EVENING" Mail THE PETER HALL COMPANY WARREN MITCHELL CHERIE LUNGHI The HOMECOMING by HAROLD PINTER Directed by Peter Hall "DISTURBINGLY HILARIOUS" Indep Eves 8.00, MATS WED 3.00, SAT 5.00 SEASON NOW EXTENDED

DOMINION 071 580 8845 cc 071 580 9562 RED PRICE PREV TUES FEB 26 OPENS WED FEB 27 AT 7.00PM SUBS EVGS 7.30 MATS THUR & SAT 2.30. Don't Miss The Real Musical 42ND STREET Returns to the West End For 64 Perfs Book Now

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL cc (Bkg fee) 24hr 7 days 071 379 4444/240 7200/793 1000 Grps 831 8625 INFO + AVAIL 0839 333670 MISS SAIGON "MUSICALS COME AND GO THIS ONE WILL STAY" S Tms Evgs 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3pm CHECK DAILY FOR RETURNS AND CANCELLATIONS. Latecomers not admitted until the interval A FEW GOOD SEATS STILL AVAIL FOR MIDWEEK MATS APPLY TO BOX OFFICE. NOW BOOKING UNTIL 30 JUNE 1991, FOR TELEPHONE/POSTAL BOOKINGS & PERSONAL CALLERS (071) 836 8108

DUCHESS 071 836 8243 cc 071 379 4444/071 793 1000 (no bkg fee) 071 240 7200 (bkg fee) Groups 071 930 6123 Theatre of Comedy Company HENRY McGEE LESLIE LAWTON & WILLIAM LUCAS in RAY COONEY'S "HILARIOUS" (S Times) RUN FOR YOUR WIFE! LONDONS LONGEST RUNNING COMEDY ALL PERFS EXLD SAT EVG. 4 tickets for the price of 3 8.00 nightly Sats 5.30 & 8.30 Thu Mat 2.30

DUKE OF YORKS BO & cc 836 5122 cc 836 9837 cc 836 3464/379 4444/793 1000 COMEDY OF THE YEAR Olivier Awards 1988 ELIZABETH ESTENSEN in WILLY RUSSELL'S "GEM" SHIRLEY VALENTINE Eves 8 Mats Thu 3, Sat 5 "The audience roars approval. Shirley's spell is unbreakable" Mail "Funniest play for years" D.Mir

FORTUNE Box Office & cc 071 836 2238 24hr cc bkg fee 071 497 9977 (24hr) 071 793 1000 Susan Hill's THE WOMAN IN BLACK Adapted by Stephen Mallatratt "A BRILLIANTLY EFFECTIVE SPINE CHILLER" Guardian "MASTERLY" Exp "CHILLING" Ind "Take Tranquillisers" T Out Eves 8 Mats Tue 3 & Sat 4 "HOORAY FOR HORROR" D Mail NOW BOOKING TO MAY '91

GARRICK BO & CC 071 379 6107 cc 379 4444 (no bkg fee) 240 7200/793 1000 (bkg fee) Grps 930 6123 NICOLA PAGETT/JONATHAN HYDE MILES ANDERSON THE REHEARSAL by JEAN ANOUILH "SHOULD BE SEEN" FT Eves 7.45 Sat 4 & 8 Mat Tue 3

GLOBE 071 437 3667 cc 071 793 1000/ 071 379 4444/ (no fee)/ 071 240 7200 (bkg fee) PATRICK MALAHIDE SINEAD CUSACK SUSAN WOOLDRIDGE MAP OF THE HEART by William Nicholson Directed by Peter Wood Perfs from 28 February

GREENWICH THEATRE 081 858 7755 Evgs 7.45 Sat Mats 2.30 Emlyn Williams THE CORN IS GREEN "A glorious performance from PATRICIA ROUTLEDGE" D Tel

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL BO 071 930 8800 or 24hr hotline 071 379 4444 (bkg fee) 071 497 9977 (bkg fee) 071 793 1000 (bkg fee) JOHN GORDON-SINCLAIR & JIM CARTER are "GASPING" by BEN ELTON Directed by Bob Spiers "Breathtakingly Funny" I on Sun "Sublime" FT MON - THURS EVES 8pm FRI EVE 8.30 pm SAT 5pm & 8.30pm Box Office Now Open MUST END 16TH FEB '91

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL B.O 071 930 8800 or 24hr Hotline 071 497 9977 (bkg fee) 071 379 4444 (bkg fee) 071 793 1000 (bkg fee) From 20th FEB DAWN FRENCH IN SILLY COW BY BEN ELTON MON-FRI EVES 8.00 pm. SAT EVE 8.45 pm MATS WED 3pm SAT 6.00 pm NOW BOOKING

HER MAJESTY'S Enquiries 0836 430921 071 839 2244 24hr CC 379 4444 (bkg fee) 793 1000 (bkg fee) 497 9977 (bkg fee) Group Sales 930 6123 ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S AWARD WINNING MUSICAL THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA DAVE WILLETTS JILL WASHINGTON MICHAEL CORMICK Iren Bartok plays Christine at certain performances Directed by HAROLD PRINCE Evgs 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3 SOLD OUT UNTIL SEPT 28 1991 40-60 RETURNS SOLD EACH PERF QUEUE DAILY

KINGS HEAD 071 226 1916 8pm DECEPTIONS with Anna Carteret & Jamie Glover.

LONDON PALLADIUM BO & CC 071 437 7373 071 437 2055 CC 24hrs 071 497 9977 (no bkg fee) 071 793 1000 071 379 4444 (bkg fee) Groups 071 240 7941 RUSS ABBOT'S PALLADIUM MAD HOUSE The New All laughter Spectacular with Bella Emberg, [illegible] and Company Evgs 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30 A HALF TERM TREAT FOR ALL THE FAMILY. WEDS MAT ALL SEATS £5 & £10. BOOK EARLY MUST END MARCH 2.

LONDON PALLADIUM BO 071 437 7373/437 2055 cc 24hr 379 4444 (no bkg fee) 497 9977 24hr (bkg fee) JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT by Tim Rice & Andrew Lloyd Webber Starring JASON DONOVAN. Previews from 1st June Opens 12th June

LYRIC Shaftesbury Ave 071 437 3686 cc 24hrs (no bkg fee) 379 4444 "SONG & DANCE DYNAMITE" Daily Mail FIVE GUYS NAMED MOE "A JOYOUS WALLOPING HIT" Guardian "The joint never stops jumpin'" Time Out (Mon-Fri 8.00 Sat at 6.00 & 8.45) APPLY DAILY FOR RETURNS AND CANCELLATIONS

LONDON PALLADIUM B/O & CC 437 7373 The Opera North/RSC Production of SHOW BOAT Returns for a limited season from March 13

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH 081 741 2311 (cc no bkg fee 071 836 3464) ENGLISH SHAKESPEARE COMPANY in MERCHANT OF VENICE by Shakespeare 7.30pm "MESMERISING" Gdn. STUDIO 081 741 8701 NO ONE WRITES TO THE COLONEL by Gabriel Garcia Marquez 8pm LAST PERFS

NATIONAL THEATRE BO 071 928 2252; Grps 071 620 0741 24 hr cc bkg fee 071 497 9977 OLIVIER Ton't 7.15, Tomor 2.00 & 7.15 RACING DEMON Hare LYTTELTON Ton't 7.30 Tomor 2.15 & 7.30 THE VISIT Durrenmatt, adapted by Valency COTTESLOE Ton't 7.30 Tomor 2.30 & 7.30 ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF AN ANARCHIST Fo

NEW LONDON Drury Lane WC2 BO 071 405 0072 CC 404 4079 Grps 405 1567 (All above tel numbers avail from 9am) All Hrs 379 4444 Tkts from W H Smith Travel Branches (Grp bkgs) 930 6123 THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER /T.S. ELIOT INTERNATIONAL AWARD WINNING MUSICAL CATS Eves 7.45 Tue & Sat 3.00 & 7.45 LATECOMERS NOT ADMITTED WHILE AUDITORIUM IS IN MOTION PLEASE BE PROMPT. Bars open at 6.45 NOW BOOKING THRU OCT SEATS NOW AVAIL

OLD VIC Box Office & CC 071 928 7616 CC (bkg fee) 240 7200/379 4444/793 1000 Grps 930 6123 Ton't 7.30, Tomor 4.00 & 7.45 JOAN PLOWRIGHT "A great actress at the very peak of her powers" Sun Exp. in TIME & THE CONWAYS Directed by Richard Olivier "DESERVES TO BE A SELL-OUT" Daily Express FINAL THREE PERFS

PALACE THEATRE 071-434 0909 cc24hrs (no bkg fee) 071 379 4444/497 9977/793 1000 Group Sales 071 930 6123 Grps 071 494 1671 THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR MUSICAL LES MISERABLES THE MUSICAL SENSATION Evgs 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30 Latecomers not admitted until the interval NOW BOOKING THRU SEPT '91 APPLY TO BOX OFFICE DAILY FOR RETURNS & CANCELLATIONS

PHOENIX BO 071 867 1044 cc (no bkg fee) 867 1111/379 4444 cc (bkg fee) 071 793 1000/071 497 9977 GRPS 240 7941 BEST MUSICAL 1990 EVENING STD AWARDS JULIA McKENZIE IMELDA STAUNTON PATSY ROWLANDS CLIVE CARTER & NICHOLAS PARSONS in The Sondheim/Lapine Musical INTO THE WOODS Evgs 7.30 Mats Thurs & Sat 2.30 MUST END 23RD FEBRUARY

PICCADILLY 071 867 1118 cc no bkg fee 867 1111/071 793 1000 071 379 4444 (24hrs)/bkg fee: 071 497 9977 (24hrs) RICHARD O'BRIEN'S "MAD BAD FUN MUSICAL" D Mir THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW Directed by Robin Lefevre "RAMPANT WITH ACTIVITY" S.Express Mon-Thur 8 Fri & Sat 7 & 9.15 90 minute show

PLAYHOUSE BO & cc 071 839 4401 cc First Call 24hr 071 379 9463 (no bkg fee) PETER HALL COMPANY TWELFTH NIGHT Prevs 26/27 Feb Opens 28 Feb at 7 Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3 12 WEEKS ONLY [illegible]

PRINCE OF WALES BO 071 839 5972 CC 24hr 7 Day 836 3464 24hr 379 6131 (bkg fee) 793 1000 Grps 930 6123 ASPECTS OF LOVE "ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S BEST" D Tel Lyrics by DON BLACK & CHARLES HART Directed by TREVOR NUNN Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3.0 Queue daily for returns. Strictly no admittance for latecomers NOW BOOKING TO OCTOBER '91 100 SEATS AVAIL FOR WED MAT ON THE DAY AT THE B. OFFICE

PRINCE EDWARD 071 734 8951 First Call 24 hr 836 3464 Ticketmaster 379 4444 K Prowse 071-793 1000 (bkg fee) Grps 240 7941/930 6123 Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30 CHILDREN OF EDEN "EXPLODES ONTO THE STAGE... A RIOT OF COLOUR, ENERGY AND PURE JOY" Today by John Caird Stephen Schwartz

QUEENS Shaftesbury Ave 071 734 1166 cc 071 793 1000 071 497 9977 071 379 4444 (bkg fee) VANESSA REDGRAVE LYNN REDGRAVE JEMMA REDGRAVE and STUART WILSON THREE SISTERS Directed by ROBERT STURUA Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30 LAST THREE WEEKS

QUEENS 071-734 1166 cc 071-379 4444 (No bkg fee) 071-497 9977/071 793 1000 (bkg. fee) Grps 071-930 6123 STEFANIE POWERS JOHN BARROWMAN & NICKY HENSON MATADOR A New Musical Directed by Elijah Moshinsky Previews from 2nd April

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY STRATFORD UPON AVON (0789 295623 cc Mon - Sat 9am - 8pm) WINTER VISITORS' SEASON ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE Ton't, Tomor 7.30 THE SWAN: PINOCCHIO Ton't, Tomor 7.30. For Free leaflet phone 0789 205301

SADLER'S WELLS 071 278 8916 SUSAN HAMPSHIRE KOSHIRO MATSUMOTO IX in Rodgers & Hammerstein's THE KING AND I "MAGIC" D. Mail "SUMPTUOUS" Times "ELEGANT" D.Exp Eves 7.30, Wed & Sat mats 2.30 GROUP SALES 071 930 6123 cc 071 793 1000/379 4444 7 WEEKS ONLY! Until 30 Mar

SHAFTESBURY 071 379 5399 cc 071 379 4444/071-793 1000(no bkg fee) 071 497 9977(Bkg Fee) Groups 071-930 6123 Theatre of Comedy Company DONALD SINDEN MICHAEL WILLIAMS in RAY COONEY'S "BLOODY FUNNY" (D Tel) OUT OF ORDER "A TRIUMPH" (F Times) ALL PERFS EXCL. SAT EVG. 4 tickets for the price of 3. 8.00 nightly Sats 5.30 & 8.30 Wed mat 2.30

ST MARTIN'S 071-836 1443 Special CC No. 379 4444 Evgs 8.0 Tues 2.45 Sat 5.0 and 8.0 39TH YEAR OF AGATHA CHRISTIE'S THE MOUSETRAP

STRAND BO & CC 071 240 0300 CC (Bkg Fees) 071 497 9977/071 379 4444/071 793 1000 DAVE ALLEN "A [illegible] by his [illegible]" S.Express Opens Tonight 8pm Season extended to 4 May by popular demand Monday - Saturday 8pm

VAUDEVILLE BO & CC 071 836 9987 cc 071 793 1000 (no fee) & 24 hr cc 836 2428 / 379 4444 (bkg fee) Mon-Fri Evgs 7.45 Mats Wed 3.0 Sats 5.0 & 8.30 HANNAH GORDON PETER BARKWORTH KEVIN McNALLY in HIDDEN LAUGHTER "SIMON GRAY'S BEST PLAY FOR YEARS" D Telegraph "SUPERBLY WRITTEN" STimes

VICTORIA PALACE 071 834 1317 CC 071 379 4444/240 7200 071-793 1000 (bkg fee) Groups 071 930 6123 BUDDY The Buddy Holly Story "BRILLIANT" Sun "SHEER UNADULTERATED FUN... I LOVE THIS SHOW" Sun Exp. "WONDERFUL STUFF" Sun Tel Mon-Thurs 8.00 Fri & Sat 5.30 & 8.30. ALL SEATS ½ PRICE FRIDAY 5.30 PERF 2nd SENSATIONAL YEAR NOW BOOKING TO SEPTEMBER 28

WHITEHALL BO & cc (no fee) 867 1119 cc 867 1111/379 4444 (no fee) 497 9977/793 1000 ALAN AYCKBOURN'S ACHINGLY FUNNY The ABSURD PERSON SINGULAR "leaves the viewer weak with laughter and admiration" D Tel "I CHALLENGE ANYONE NOT TO LAUGH OUT LOUD" Today Eves 8 Mats Thurs 3 Sat at 4.30

WYNDHAMS 071 867 1116 CC 071 379 4444/793 1000 (No Fee) & 24hr CC 836 2428 (Bkg Fee) SHEILA GISH CLIVE FRANCIS JOSEPH MAHER in WHAT THE BUTLER SAW by JOE ORTON "RIOTOUSLY FUNNY" D Tel Eves 8.00 Fri & Sats 6.00 & 8.40

ART GALLERIES

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, Piccadilly W1. Recorded Info 071-439 4996/7 GREAT IMPRESSIONIST AND OTHER MASTER PAINTINGS FROM THE EMIL G. BUHRLE COLLECTION. EGON SCHIELE AND HIS CONTEMPORARIES. LAST DAY! Book ticket on 071-240 7200/071-793 1000/071-287 9579 Open daily 10am - [illegible]

CINEMAS

CURZON MAYFAIR Curzon St 071 465 8865 Christopher Walken, Rupert Everett, Natasha Richardson, Helen Mirren in THE COMFORT OF STRANGERS (18) Progs at 2.00 (not Sun) 4.10, 6.20, 8.40 Last Weeks

CURZON WEST END Shaftesbury Avenue W1 071 439 4805 Derek Jacobi in THE FOOL (U) Progs at 2.15, 5.15 & 8.15. "Christine Edzard's magnificent film" Guardian

CURZON PHOENIX Phoenix St off Charing Cross Rd 071 240 9661 DECEMBER BRIDE (PG) Progs at 2.20 (not Sun) 4.25 6.35 8.40

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BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax

6.00 BBC Breakfast News with Nicholas Witchell and Laurie Mayer

8.55 Daytime UK. A preview of the day's programmes

9.00 News, regional news and weather **9.05** Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on redundancy and recession **9.50** Dish of the Day. Cookery tips with Rosemary Moon

10.00 News, regional news and weather **10.05** Playdays **10.25** Bunyip (r) **10.35** Going for Gold (r)

11.00 News, regional news and weather **11.05** People Today. A daily look at the lives of people across the UK, with Adrian Mills, Debi Jones, Ronke Phillips and Main MacIver

12.00 News, regional news and weather **12.05** Royal Appointment. The Queen's former press secretary, Ronald Allison, presents royal profiles and interviews **12.20** Scene Today. Judi Spiers and Alan Titchmarsh are joined by Simon Potter with news and gossip from his *Showbiz File* **12.55** Regional News and weather

1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip Hayton. Weather **1.30** Neighbours. (Ceefax)

1.50 Film: Callie and Son (1981). An above average made-for-television movie, starring the bionic woman, Lindsey Wagner as an unprepossessing waitress who is forced to give up her illegitimate baby. But later in life, as a successful career woman, she is determined to reclaim him and once she has, a tale of obsessive mother love ensues. With Dabney Coleman, Jameson Parker and Michelle Pfeiffer. Directed by Waris Hussein

3.50 Henry's Cat. Cartoon (r) **4.05** Jackanory. Bernard Holley with the last part of Joan Eadington's *Jonny Briggs and the Junior Tennis* **4.20** Fantastic Max. Cartoon (r) **4.30** Eye Spy. Spymaster Julian Parkin puts four would-be spies through their paces

4.55 Newsround Extra. Extended news reports for young people **5.10** Grange Hill. Episode 12 of the schoolroom drama (Ceefax)

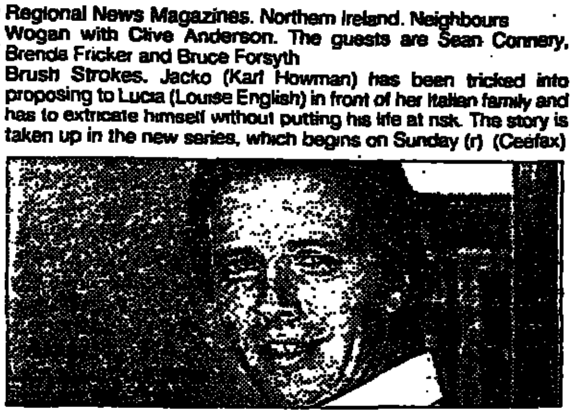
5.35 Neighbours (r) (Ceefax) Northern Ireland. Sportswide 5.40-6.00 Inside Ulster

6.00 Six O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Andrew Harvey. Weather

6.30 Regional News Magazines. Northern Ireland. Neighbours

7.00 Wogan with Clive Anderson. The guests are Sean Connery, Brenda Fricker and Bruce Forsyth

7.40 Brush Strokes. Jacko (Karl Howman) has been tricked into proposing to Lucia (Louise English) in front of her Italian family and has to extricate himself without putting his life at risk. The story is taken up in the new series, which begins on Sunday (r) (Ceefax)



A passing call from a British inspector: Ian Ogilvy (8.10pm)

8.10 Over My Dead Body: Passing Inspection. Standard American murder mystery series, starring Edward Woodward as crime-writer Max Beckett. A British inspector (Ian Ogilvy) arrives in San Francisco to lead a murder inquiry, knowing all about Max's past history at Scotland Yard. With Jessica Lundy as Beckett's journalist accomplice. (Ceefax)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather

9.30 The Boys From the Bush: Tall Poppies. Uneven comedy drama set in Australia about a middle-aged double act running Melbourne Confidential, an agency which will answer any call. Reg (Tim Healy) and his partner Dennis (Chris Haywood) are busy promoting Reg's daughter Arlene (Nadine Garner) after her Test match streak. Meanwhile, Leslie (Mark Haddigan) is trying to run the chaotic dating side of the company (Ceefax) Northern Ireland. The Show 10.15 The Boys From the Bush

10.20 Film: Moving Target (1988). A made-for-television drama about a young musician who returns from summer camp and is shocked to find that his family and all their belongings have completely vanished. He finds himself on the run from cold-blooded killers and the police. Intriguing thriller starring Jason Bateman and Tom Skerritt. Directed by Chris Thomson. Northern Ireland: 11.05-12.40am Film: Barbarella

11.55 Film: Tales That Witness Madness (1973). An anthology horror movie with comic overtones. Donald Pleasence plays the head of a psychiatric research centre who relates to Jack Hawkins the mystery behind cases of mental aberration. Cue four short stories, ranging from the spooky to the weird, featuring such artists as Kim Novak, Joan Collins, Suzy Kendall and Peter McEnery. Directed by Freddie Francis

1.25am Weather

BBC 2

6.45 Open University: Measuring the Earth and the Moon. Ends at 7.10

8.00 News **8.15** Westminster

9.00 Daytime On Two: Maths for adults **9.10** Management in education **9.40** History: the Highland clearances **10.00** Learning to read **10.20** A visit to the Glasgow Garden Festival **10.40** Schoolchildren compose tunes based on the D major chord **11.00** Were humans living at the time of dinosaurs? **11.15** Computer studies **11.30** GCSE German **11.45** Care and conservation – rubbish **12.00** How to survive in water – and save others **12.20** Teenagers have a taste of fame **12.50** Classic texts: Charlotte Brontë's *Wuthering Heights* **1.20** The Brollys **1.40** The first of five short plays designed to encourage discussion in the classroom

2.00 News and weather followed by Words and Pictures (r)

2.15 Sport On Friday introduced by Helen Rollason. Bowls: the world indoor championship from the Guild Hall, Preston; Rugby Union: previews of tomorrow's Calcutta Cup match between England and Scotland at Twickenham and the game in Cardiff between Wales and Ireland. Football: Trevor Brooking on the fifth round of the FA Cup. With news and weather at 3.00 and 3.50. Wales: Snooker

4.00 Catchword. The word quiz hosted by Paul Coia

4.30 Fruity Passions. Margaret Vaughan's crusade to convert the British palate to the delights of wild wine (r). (Ceefax)

5.00 Holiday 91 (r) (Ceefax)

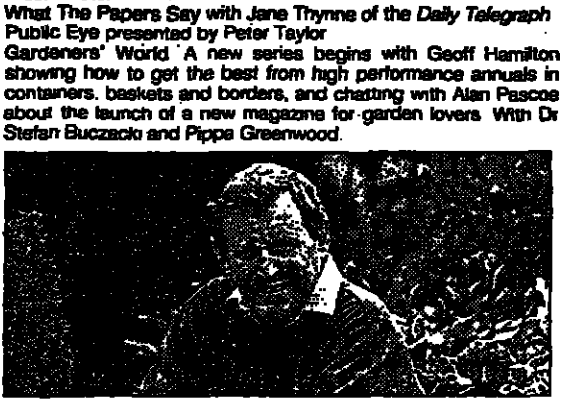
5.30 Food And Drink (r)

6.00 Film: The Hideaways (1973). Claudia (Sally Prager), a 12-year-old, runs away to New York with her young brother (Johnny Doran). Having nowhere to stay they are forced to spend several nights in the Metropolitan Museum of Art where they become fascinated with one of the exhibits – a marble statue of an angel – and befriend the rich recluse (Ingrid Bergman) who donated it. Middling children's fantasy, directed by Fielder Cook. Wales: A Way With Numbers 6.25 A Vous la France 6.50 España Viva 7.15 Wales in Westminster

7.45 What The Papers Say with Jane Thynne of the *Daily Telegraph*

8.00 Public Eye presented by Peter Taylor

8.30 Gardeners' World. A new series begins with Geoff Hamilton showing how to get the best from high performance annuals in containers, baskets and borders, and chatting with Alan Pascoe about the launch of a new magazine for garden lovers. With Dr Stefan Buczacki and Pippa Greenwood.



Nurturing blooms for all seasons: Geoff Hamilton (8.30pm)

9.00 Lazarus and Dingwall. Undernourished comedy series about two hapless policemen (Mark Arden and Stephen Frost) working for the Really Serious Crime Squad. Billionaire tycoon "Fatty Fry" has been kidnapped, but Lazarus and Dingwall are on the case. (Ceefax)

9.30 Arena: Oblomov.

● CHOICE. Now that President Gorbachev no longer seems quite the liberal that we once thought him to be, Paul Lee's modern version of the Goncharov classic may have less force than on its first transmission a year ago. But the idea of updating Oblomov to represent the forces of lethargy, corruption and stagnation that perestroika was meant to combat is still a valid one. As many will remember from Spike Milligan's stage spoof, *Oblomov* is the story of a man who stays in bed as long as possible, emerging only to consume vast meals. In Lee's version the erstwhile aristocrat has been turned into a Soviet bureaucrat, regretting that the Brezhnev era could not go on for ever. He is splendidly played by George Wendt, the heavyweight American star of *Cheers*, with our own Ronald Fraser as his foul-tempered servant, originally a serf but now a chauffeur. The film was shot in the Soviet Union

10.30 Newsnight with Peter Snow **11.15** Weather

11.20 Film: Gambit (1986). Part one of a nuclear thriller made for German television and set in Germany and Morocco, starring Despina Pajanou, Rolf Zacher and Heinz Bennent. A German scientist dies in a Moroccan brothel and his suitcase is found by a crook. Meanwhile, in Bonn the government receives a message from a terrorist organisation, threatening to blow up a nuclear power station unless their demand for one million marks is met. Investigative journalist Billie Seeger smells a rat and a big story, but is picked up by the security police before she can follow it up. Directed by Peter Bringmann. In German with English subtitles. (Part 2 next Friday) Ends at 1.05am. Wales: Snooker 12.00-1.35am Film. Gambit

ITV

6.00 TV-am

9.25 ITN Gulf Report **9.40** Thames News and weather

9.45 The Time . . . The Place . . . Mike Scott chairs a discussion on how families are coping with worsening unemployment

10.30 This Morning. Family magazine show hosted by husband and wife team Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley

12.05 Rainbow. Entertaining educational series for the young **12.25** Thames News and weather

12.30 News with John Suchet. Weather

1.20 Home and Away **1.50** A Country Practice

2.20 Thames Action. The show where viewers get the chance to televise their own particular bees in their bonnet by making videos **2.50** Give Us A Clue. Celebrity charades

3.15 ITN News headlines **3.20** Thames news headlines **3.25** The Young Doctors

3.55 Utterly Brilliant. Timmy Mallett discovers the secret of puppeteering **4.20** Cartoon **4.30** Fun House. Slapstick game show

5.00 Home and Away (r)

5.30 News (Oracle) and weather

6.00 The Day. A member of the public relives one of his or her most important days

6.05 6 O'Clock Live. Frank Bough presents a special romantic edition

7.00 The $64,000 Question. Big money is there for the taking in Bob Monkhouse's game show

7.30 Coronation Street. (Oracle)

8.00 Gulf News Report followed by Watching. Wafer-thin comedy about an incompatible couple (Oracle)

8.30 Surgical Spirit. Vigorous hospital comedy. Sheila Sabatini's husband appears on the scene, causing havoc for her professional and social life. She has to decide whether to let her hormones or common sense direct her actions. Starring Nichola McAuliffe, Duncan Preston and Marji Campi. (Oracle)

Mid-life blues for a legal eagle: Sharon Gless (9.00pm)

9.00 The Trials of Rosie O'Neill.

● CHOICE. A smoothly professional American import features Sharon Gless, the blonde half of *Cagney and Lacey*, as a Los Angeles lawyer suffering a mid-life crisis. Her husband has abandoned her for a younger woman, leaving her at 43 to ponder introspectively on the size of her breasts and sit alone in the dark eating yoghurt. But there is the hint of a hunky toyboy, should she feel the need. Her professional life has also taken a U-turn. From helping the rich to become even richer, she is a now a defence attorney acting for society's unfortunates. In this category falls tonight's client, an unmarried teenager accused of murdering her baby. In the familiar transatlantic style, the show is slick and fast and good to look at with a narrative that neatly integrates the heroine's public and private lives. And it manages to show a degree of social concern, while not not likely to send viewers to bed with nightmares (Oracle)

10.00 News at Ten ((Oracle) and weather **10.35** LWT News and weather

10.45 Crime Monthly. Paul Ross and his team take a look at the week's crimes with reconstructions and live police investigations

11.45 Gulf News Report

11.50 Hooperman. More feather-light adventures with the well-meaning cop Harry Hooperman. Starring John Ritter.

12.20am Married . . . With Children. Likeable and quirky American comedy about the Bundy family starring Ed O'Neill and Katie Sagal

12.45 Dirty Dancing. Spin-off series from the popular film of the same name

1.15 The James Whale Radio Show. Love him or hate him, the most arrogant man on television certainly knows how to stir up furious and funny phone-ins

2.15 Word of Mouth. John Hegley introduces weird and often wonderful poems

2.50 Raw Power. Rock and roll with the minimum of chat

3.50 CinemAttractions. What's new on the big screen in the US

4.30 Ski Tips from Andy Steggall and Liz Wickham

5.00 ITN Morning News. Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Channel Four Daily. With World News at 7.00 and 8.00 includes *Business Daily*, *Box Office* and the latest overnight news from the Gulf

9.25 Schools

12.00 Channel 4 News

12.05 The Parliament Programme presented by Sue Cameron

12.30 Business Daily. Financial and business news service

1.00 Sesame Street. Educational fun for pre-school children

2.00 The Complete Skier. Tips for skiers at all levels

2.30 Film: Whirlpool (1949, b/w).

● CHOICE. Gene Tierney was a screen beauty of the Forties whose fate was mainly to look gorgeous in forgettable films. The exceptions included the thrillers she made with the director Otto Preminger. *Whirlpool* coming between the justly celebrated *Laura* and the underrated *Where the Sidewalk Ends*. Symptomatic of Hollywood's then obsession with sick minds, *Whirlpool* has Tierney as a kleptomaniac (married to a psychiatrist) who is hypnotised by a venomous fortune-teller (José Ferrer) and accused of murder. The material is as melodramatic as this summary would suggest but if the plot is faintly preposterous it throws up an absorbing study of a vulnerable character pushed to the limits. Apart from the enigmatic Laura, it is arguably Tierney's best film role. The film was sumptuously photographed by a fine Hollywood cameraman, Arthur Miller, not to be confused with the playwright

4.20 Break. Animation

4.30 Countdown. Richard Whiteley hosts another edition of the words and numbers game, helped by actor Simon Williams

5.00 Not on Sunday presented by Ronald Eyre. Includes an item on the portrayal of religion in television soap opera, with reference to *Brookside* and *EastEnders*.

5.30 Sumo. Wrestling from Tokyo

6.00 Happy Days. Sparky American comedy series about high school life in Fifties Milwaukee. The conclusion of a three-part adventure, in which Fonz and the gang have a close shave with Hollywood sharks – both in and out of the water

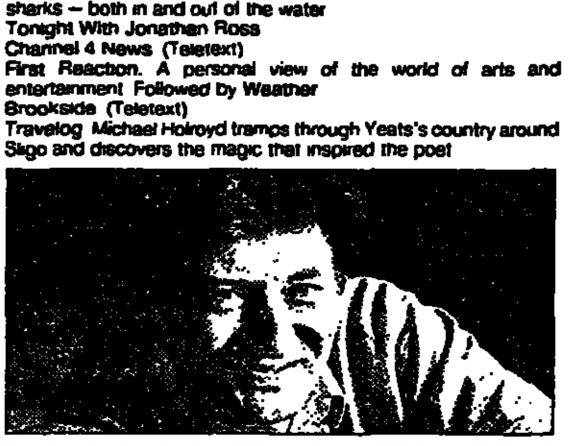
6.30 Tonight With Jonathan Ross

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext)

7.50 First Reaction. A personal view of the world of arts and entertainment. Followed by Weather

8.00 Brookside (Teletext)

8.30 Travelog. Michael Holroyd tramps through Yeats's country around Sligo and discovers the magic that inspired the poet



Seeking the inspiration of Yeats: Michael Holroyd (8.30pm)

9.00 Cheers. Superior sitcom set in Boston's most famous bar (Teletext)

9.30 The Great Plant Collections. Roy Lancaster's search for unusual botanical collections takes him to Mount Stewart and the series of gardens set up more than 50 years ago by Lady Londonderry (r). (Teletext)

10.00 Roseanne

● CHOICE. One of Channel 4's most successful American comedy imports roars back for a new series, its wisecrack quotient as high as ever. But the show is good not only because it is funny but because it is funny about serious things. Take away the jokes and *Roseanne* would still be a sharply observed drama of family life, although a lot less easy to watch. If 10pm seems late for a family comedy, then the scheduling is justified for tonight's episode which is built around the sometimes explicit details of Roseanne's pregnancy test. Roseanne Barr's feminine hunk with the acid one-liners has rightly been praised but this is no one-woman show. In particular the contribution of John Goodman as hubby Dan, who more than matches Roseanne in physical bulk while providing the necessary foil for her verbal aggression, is crucial (Teletext)

10.30 Whose Line Is It Anyway? Clive Anderson provides the scenarios, the audience suggests the household objects, and it is down to Mike McShane, Tony Slattery, Sandi Toksvig and Colin Mochrie to reel off comic improvisations

11.00 The Word. Tellingly described as half-live and fronted with varying degrees of proficiency by Terry Christian, Amanda de Cadenet and Michelle Collins, the show that tells you what's happening in the worlds of music, fashion and showbiz

12.00 Channel 4 News – Midnight Special. Ends at 2.00am

ITV VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 2.20pm-2.50 The Chef's Apprentice 5.00-5.30 Katts and Dog 6.00 Home and Away 6.25-7.00 Anglia News 10.45 Cross Question 11.50 Friday the 13th 12.40am Video View 1.10 The James Whale Radio Show 2.10 America's Top Ten 2.40 The Twilight Zone 3.00 In the Heat of the Night 4.00-5.00 American College Football

BORDER

As London except: 6.00pm Lookaround Friday 6.30-7.00 Take the High Road 10.45 The World of Golf 11.15 Hardball 12.10am The New Avengers 1.10 The James Whale Radio Show 2.10 The Young Riders 3.05 Night Beat 4.05-5.00 Space

CENTRAL

As London except: 2.20pm-2.50 Gardening Time 5.00-5.30 My Secret Identity 6.00 Home and Away 6.25-7.00 Central News 10.45 Central Weekend 12.15am Prisoner: Cell Block H 1.10 The James Whale Radio Show 2.10 Film: The Bounty Hunter 3.40 Profile 4.00-5.00 The Hit Man and Her

GRANADA

As London except: 2.20pm-2.50 Granada Weekend 5.00-5.30 Bratpack 6.00 Home and Away 6.30-7.00 Granada Tonight 10.45 Hooperman 11.15 Film: Beneath the Planet of the Apes 1.00am Pop Profile 1.10 The James Whale Radio Show 2.10 The Young Riders 3.05 Night Beat 4.05-5.00 Space

HTV WEST

As London except: 3.25pm-3.55 Sons and Daughters 6.00 HTV News 6.30-7.00 HTV Sportsweek 10.45 Douglas – Twins by Appointment 11.15 Hurray for Today U.S.A. 11.45 Hooperman 12.15am In the Heat of the Night 1.10 The James Whale Radio Show 2.10 CinemAttractions 2.40 Film: Vampire Circus 4.10 Hudson Confidential 4.40-5.00 Jobfinder

HTV WALES

As HTV West except: 6.00pm Wales At Six 6.30-7.00 Stopwatch 10.45 Elinor 11.30-11.45 Better Late

TSW

As London except: 1.50pm The Sullivans 2.20-2.50 Cooking With Kurma 3.25-4.00 Home and Away 5.00-5.30 Who's the Boss? 6.00 TSW Today 6.30-7.00 Discovering Gardens 10.45 Prisoner: Cell Block H 11.45 Hooperman 12.15am Extra Dimensions 1.10 The James Whale Radio Show 2.10 The Young Riders 3.05 Night Beat 4.05-5.00 Space

TVS

As London except: 2.20pm-2.50 Moneywise 6.00 Coast to Coast Weekend Special 6.50-7.00 Police 5 10.45 Ski Tips 11.15 Tonight in Comedy 11.45 Hooperman 12.15am Philip Marlowe: Private Eye 1.10 The James Whale Radio Show 2.10 The Young Riders 3.05 Raw Power 4.05 Phenomena 4.30-5.00 The Chart Show and Bell Video Show

TYNE TEES

As London except: 6.00pm Northern Life 6.30-7.00 Trailblazers 10.45 North Tonight 11.35 Film: The Haunted Palace 1.10am The James Whale Radio Show 2.10 The Young Riders 3.05 Night Beat 4.05-5.00 Space

ULSTER

As London except: 1.50pm Sons and Daughters 2.20-2.50 Jimmy's 3.25-3.55 Glenroe 6.00 Six Tonight 6.30-7.00 Sportsbeat 10.45 Kelly 12.15am Prisoner: Cell Block H 1.10 The James Whale Radio Show 2.10 The Young Riders 3.05 Night Beat 4.00-5.00 Space

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 1.55pm-2.50 David Frost's Caribbean Travel Pursuits 6.00 Calendar 6.30-7.00 Country Challenge 10.45 Film: Fantasy Man (Harold Hopkins) 12.15am Friday the 13th – The Series 1.10 The James Whale Radio Show 2.10 The Concert 3.10 Kojak 4.05-5.00 The Silk Road

S4C

Starts: 6.00am C4 Daily 9.25 Ysgolion 12.00 Sbectel 12.10 Pobol Y Cwm 12.30 Newyddion 12.45 Slot Meithrin 1.00 Countdown 1.30 Business Daily 2.00 The Ancient Art of Cookery 2.30 Film: Jesse James 4.30 Slot 23 5.15 Brookside 5.45 Heno 6.00 Newyddion 6.15 Heno 6.40 Pobol Y Cwm 7.00 Dinas 7.30 Llygad Yr Haul 8.00 Cefn Gwlad 8.30 Newyddion 9.00 Band Y Gwarchodlu Cymreig 10.00 Snwcer 10.30 Whose Line Is It Anyway? 11.00 The Word 12.00 C4 News 2.00 Diwedd

RTE 1

Starts: 12.15pm Dáil Report 12.30 Arts Express 1.00 News 1.40 Crusade in Europe 2.05 GP 3.00 Live At Three 4.00 News followed by Sons and Daughters 4.30 Knots Landing 5.15 Masterworks 5.30 The Sullivans 6.00 The Angelus 6.01 Six-One 7.00 Fair City 7.30 Bless Me Father 8.00 Winning Streak 8.25 The Wine Geese 9.00 News 9.30 The Late Late Show 11.35 News followed by Midnight Caller 12.40am Close

NETWORK 2

Starts: 2.30pm Bosco 3.00 The Den 5.30 Home and Away 7.00 Nuacht 7.08 Cursai 7.30 Coronation Street 8.00 News followed by Dempsey and Makepeace 9.00 Check It Out 9.30 News followed by Film: The Godfather (Marlon Brando, Al Pacino) 12.45am Close

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
6.00am The DJ Kat Show 8.40 Mrs Pepperpot 8.50 Panel Pot Pourri 10.00 Here's Lucy 10.30 The Young Doctors 11.00 The Bold and the Beautiful 11.30 The Young and the Restless 12.30pm Sale of the Century 1.00 True Confessions 1.30 Another World 2.20 Loving 2.45 Wife of the Week 3.15 Bewitched 3.45 The DJ Kat Show 5.00 Punky Brewster 5.30 McHale's Navy 6.00 Family Ties 6.30 Sale of the Century 7.00 Love at First Sight 7.30 Growing Pains 8.00 Riptide 9.00 Hunter 10.00 WWF Wrestling Challenge 11.00 The Deadly Ernest Horror Show: The House that Screamed 1.00am Pages from Skytext

SKY NEWS

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
● The following schedule may be subject to alteration.
News on the hour.
5.30am European Business Today 6.00 International Business Report 9.30 Nightline 10.30 Beyond 2000 11.00 International Business Report 11.30 Now, Sir Robin 1.30pm NBC Today 2.30 Parliament 3.30 The Lords 4.00 International Business Report 4.30 Beyond 2000 5.00 Live at Five 6.30 Newsline 7.30 International Business Report 8.30 Beyond 2000 10.30 Newsline 11.30 NBC News 12.30am CBS News 1.30 ABC News 2.30 NBC News 3.30 CBS News 4.30 European Business Today

SKY MOVIES

● Via the Astra satellite.
6.00am Showcase
10.00 Friendship in Vienna (1988). The friendship between two girls is threatened by German anti-Semitism in Thirties Austria
12.00 The Mark of Zorro (1940, b/w). Tyrone Power stars as the masked bandit
2.00pm Uptown Saturday Night (1974). Two friends (Sidney Poitier and Bill Cosby) embark on a relaxing holiday and become involved with gangsters
4.00 Scooby-Doo and the Reluctant Werewolf. Cartoon
6.00 Her Alibi (1989). A mystery writer (Tom Selleck) falls for a murder suspect (Paulina Porizkova)
7.40 Entertainment Tonight
8.00 Feds (1989). Rebecca DeMornay and Mary Gross play female students at the male-dominated FBI training academy
9.40 At the Pictures
10.00 Steel Dawn (1987). Futuristic adventure story in which a loner (Patrick Swayze) comes to the aid of a farm-owner
11.35 The Running Man (1987). Arnold Schwarzenegger plays an escaped convict in the year 2019 who is forced to take part in a violent game show
1.20am Wherever You Are (1986). Following the second world war a man (Julian Sands) searches for his wife
3.05 Alone in the T-Shirt Zone (1986). A young man makes his fortune manufacturing unique T-shirts. Starring Michael Barrack
4.25 Pathfinder (1987). A young Laplander seeks revenge for the death of his parents. Starring Mikkel Gaup. Ends at 5.50

EUROSPORT

● Via the Astra satellite.
5.00am International Business Report 5.30 European Business Today 6.00 DJ Kat 7.30 Eurobics 8.00 Freestyle Skiing 8.30 World Championship Darts 9.30 Nordic World Championship Skiing 11.00 Eurobics 11.30 Gymnastics Review of the 1990 Season 12.30pm Tennis Classic 2.30 Big Wheels 3.00 Indoor Athletics 4.00 Speedskating World Championships 5.00 World Sports Special 5.30 Synchronised Swimming 6.00 Judo 6.30 Eurosport News 7.00 Trampolining World Championships 7.30 Fun-Boarding 8.00 WWF Wrestling 9.30 World Weightlifting Championships 10.00 Nordic Skiing 11.00 Eurosport News 11.30 Mobil 1 Motorsport 12.00 Ford Ski Report

SCREENSPORT

● Via the Astra satellite.
7.00am Spanish Football Highlights 7.30 Ice Racing World Cup Qualifier 8.30 The Sportshow 9.30 World of Champs 10.00 Stop-USWA Wrestling: The Main Event 11.00 Ice Hockey NHL 1991 1.00pm US PGA Golf 3.00 Athletics: Vitalis/Meadowland Invitational 5.00 Stop-Mud and Monsters 6.00 NBA Basketball 8.00 Go 9.00 US Pro Boxing 10.30 Ice Hockey NHL 1991 12.30am Ice Racing Individual World Cup Qualifier 1.30 Pro Box 3.30 World Professional Figure Skating Championships 5.30 Kick Boxing 6.30 Spanish Football

MTV

● Via the Astra satellite.
Twenty-four hours of rock and pop

LIFESTYLE

● Via the Astra satellite.
10.00am Great American Gameshows 11.15 Coffee Break 11.20 Everyday Workout 11.50 The Good Food Show 12.15pm Sally Jessy Raphael 1.05 Star Time 1.10 Search for Tomorrow 1.35 The Edge of Night 2.00 Divorce Court 2.25 Lifestyle Plus 2.35 Country Ways 3.05 Rafferty's Rules 3.55 Tea Break 4.05 Phyllis 4.35 Great American Gameshows 6.00 The Sell-a-Vision Shopping Channel 8.00 JSTV 10.00 The Sell-a-Vision Shopping Channel 12.00 Satellite Jukebox

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
1.30pm The Chalk Garden (1965). A governess attempts to discipline her unruly teenage charge. Starring Deborah Kerr and Hayley Mills
3.30 The Movie Show
4.00 Cash on Demand (1963 b/w). Drama about a bank manager (Peter Cushing), whose wife and son are taken hostage by a would-be robber
6.00 Howard the Duck (1986). Howard is transported from Duck World to Ohio, where his mission is to save the world
8.00 Red-Headed Stranger (1986). A preacher's wife finds comfort in the arms of another man. Starring Morgan Fairchild
10.00 Trapper County War (1988). Two men go tracking and fall prey to a local clan
11.40 Cross Country (1983). The boyfriend of a murdered girl hitches a lift with a strange couple. Starring Richard Beymer
1.25am Masquerade (1988). A tale of love and deceit as three lives become intertwined. Ends at 2.55

THE SPORTS CHANNEL

● Via the Marcopolo satellite
1.30pm Racing Today 2.00 Ian Woosnam – Champion of Europe 4.00 NHL Ice Hockey 5.00 Waterskiing 6.00 Rodeo Championships 7.00 Sportstalk 7.30 Motor World 8.00 Snooker – Matchroom League 10.30 This is the Sports Channel 11.30 Racing Today 12.00 Snooker – Matchroom League

THE POWER STATION

● Via the Marcopolo satellite
7.00am Twenty-one hours of rock and pop

RADIO 3

6.35-6.55am Open University (FM only)

6.55 Weather; News Headlines

7.00 Morning Concert: Bizet (Jeux d'enfants: Montreal SO); Sibelius (Pohjola's Daughter, Op 49: SNO)

7.30 News

7.35 Morning Concert (cont): Nicolai (Overture, The Merry Wives of Windsor: Bamberg SO); Finzi (Romance, Op 11: Guildhall String Ensemble); Villa-Lobos (Bachianas Brasileiras No 5: Lynn Harrell Instrumental Ensemble); Ravel (Pavane pour une infante défunte: Paul Crossley, piano); Elgar (Wand of Youth Suite No 2: Ulster Orchestra) **8.30** News

8.35 Composers of the Week: Liszt (Symphonic poem, Tasso, lamento e trionfo, Jeanne D'Arc au bucher; Im Rhein im schönen Strome; Symphonic poem, Von der Wiege bis zum Grabe; J'ai perdu ma force et ma vie; Ne brany menya moy drug)

9.35 Bach the Romantic: Bach (Cantata No 22, Jesu nahm zu sich die Zwölfe: Soloists, Gächinger Kantorei, Bach-Collegium, Stuttgart, under Helmut Rilling); Mozart (Adagio and Fugue in C minor, K 546: Amadeus String Quartet); Bach (Sonata in G, BWV 1002: Louise Williams, viola, Francis Grier, piano); Brahms (Prelude and Fugue in G minor: Rudolf Innig, organ); Mendelssohn (St Paul, Act 1: Soloists, Rundfunkchor Leipzig, Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra under Masur); Liszt (Prelude, Weinen, Klagen, Sorgen, Zagen: Leslie Howard, piano); Brahms (Sonata in F minor, Op 120 No 1, for viola and piano)

12.00 Ulster Orchestra under David Jones performs Beethoven (Overture, The Ruins of Athens); Hindemith (Horn Concerto; Five Pieces for strings); Reger (Variations and Fugue on a Theme of Beethoven) (r)

1.00pm News

1.05 Chamber Music from Manchester: The pianist John Gough plays Haydn (Sonata in D, H XVI 24); Ravel (Valses nobles et sentimentales); Cyril Scott (Passacaglia, Pastoral Suite, Water Wagtail, Lotus Land, Danse nègre); Falla (Three Dances: Three Cornered Hat)

2.00 Soundings (r)

3.00 Youth Orchestras of the World: Penderecki (Threnody for the Victims of Hiroshima); Shostakovich (Symphony No 4: Junge Deutsche Philharmonie under Myung-Whun Chung)

4.20 Christian Zacharias: The pianist plays C.P.E. Bach (Rondo in C minor, Wq 59 4); Schubert (Sonata in E flat, D 568) (r)

5.00 Mainly for Pleasure, with Fiona Talkington

6.30 The Honky-Tonk Man: Francis Wilford-Smith's final programme on blues pianists looks at the work of Charlie Spand

7.00 News

7.05 Third Ear: Professor Martin Kemp talks to Kate Whiteford, whose paintings are being shown at the St Andrew's Festival

7.30 BBC SO: Sixtieth Anniversary Season: Gunter Wand conducts Mozart (Symphony No 39 in E flat, K 543, Flute Concerto in G, K 313). **8.30** Malcolm Hayes presents extracts from Mozart's letters, written near the time of the Prague Symphony (r) **8.50** Mozart (Symphony No 40 in G minor, K 550)

9.30 Howard Hartog Remembers: Shortly before his death in November last year, Hartog talked to John Drummond about the 40 years he spent promoting music, and in the later part of his life, his management of some of the world's great artists

10.25 Living Memories: John Drummond introduces a programme of recordings by artists associated with Howard Hartog at North German Radio in the late Forties. Beethoven (Sonata in F sharp, Op 78: James Gibb, piano); Wagner (Hore mit Sinn, Gotterdammerung: Bayreuth Festival Orchestra under Karl Bohm, with Marina Modl, mezzo); Strauss (Metamorphosen: NDRSO Strings under Schmidt-Isserstedt)

11.15 John Bull: The harpsichordist Jos van Immerseel plays three In nomines

11.30 News

11.35-12.35am Composers of the Week: Lutoslawski (Symphonies Nos 1 and 3) (r)

1.00-2.25 Night School (FM only) (except in Scotland)

RADIO 4

● FM. Most scheduled programmes will be suspended to give news of the Gulf war. The following schedule, on MW and LW, is subject to alteration:

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing; Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 6.55, 7.55, 8.58 Weather

9.00 News

9.05 Desert Island Discs: Sue Lawley with Paddy Ashdown, MP, leader of the Social and Liberal Democrats (r)

9.45 Feedback: Chris Dunkley airs listeners' comments about BBC programmes and policy

10.00 News; Special Assignment

10.30 Morning Story: Becky's Wheelie Bin, by Rhoda Watson. Read by Marie Jones

10.45 Daily Service

11.00 News; The River Young

● CHOICE. How Somerset Maugham would have loved the story that Michael Young tells. What a story he would have spun out of it, and what a movie it would have made. But we are stuck with Young's own narrative, and it is really quite splendid because he doggedly follows up clue after clue to prove or disprove the family legend that his oil-drilling grandfather discovered a river in the heart of the Borneo jungle and gave it his name. It is, however, something other than a waterway that would have fired Maugham's romantic imagination . . .

11.47 Folk on 4: As Nature Intended. The second of six programmes in the company of people who enjoy themselves

12.00 News, You and Yours

12.25pm The Food Programme, with Derek Cooper **12.55** Weather

1.00 The World at One

1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping

2.00 News; Woman's Hour: From Newcastle. Includes an interview with Gro Harlem Brundtland, the prime minister of Norway, an item on pre-Raphaelite women and Hollywood cookery, suggestions for the Chinese New Year and a report on a new scheme in Leeds to help disabled teenagers to gain their independence

3.00 News; Classic Serial: The Forsyte Chronicles. Episode 20 of a 23-part adaptation of John Galsworthy's saga, narrated by Dirk Bogarde (r)

4.00 News

4.05 Family Fortunes: Black Sheep. The last in the series of programmes examining working-class family life in the north through three generations. Phil Smith talks to housing estate teenagers who have been in trouble

4.30 Kaleidoscope: Includes reviews of the Max Ernst exhibition of surrealist paintings at the Tate Gallery and Christopher Hampton's new play, *White Chameleon*, at the National Theatre; and the Birmingham string quartet Hot Strings play live in the studio

5.00 PM **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock News; Financial Report

6.30 Going Places: The travel and transport magazine

7.00 News **7.05** The Archers

7.20 Pick of the Week

8.05 Any Questions? Jonathan Dimbleby is joined in Jersey by the journalist and broadcaster Chantal Cuer; Jack Dromey, national officer of the Transport and General Workers' Union, the novelist Harry Patterson; and Charles Moore, deputy editor of the *Daily Telegraph*

8.50 Law in Action. Marcel Berlins takes a weekly look at developments in the law

9.15 Kaleidoscope: Selling the Joke. The art of writing comedy (r)

9.45 Letter from America by Alistair Cooke **9.59** Weather

10.00 The World Tonight

10.45 A Book at Bedtime: Carol, by Patricia Highsmith (7 of 12)

11.00 Week Ending. A satirical review of the week's news

11.25 The Financial World

11.45 Today in Parliament

12.00-12.30am News, incl 12.20 Weather **12.33** Shipping

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m 1089kHz/275m;FM-97.6-99.8. Radio 2: FM-88-90.2. Radio 3: 1215kHz/ 247m; FM-90-92.4. Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m;FM-92.4-94.6. Radio 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. World Service: MW 648kHz/463m. Jazz FM 102.2. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/194m, FM 95.8. GLR: 1458kHz/206m, FM 94.9, Melody FM 104.9.

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW. 5.00am Gary King 6.30 Simon Mayo 9.00 Simon Bates 12.30pm Newsbeat 12.45 Gary Davies 3.00 Steve Wright in the Afternoon 5.30 News 91 6.00 Round Table 7.30 The Essential Selection with Pete Tong 10.00 The Friday Rock Show with Tommy Vance 12.00-2.00am Andy Peebles Soul Train

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 4.00am Steve Madden 6.00 Ken Bruce 7.30 Derek Jameson 9.30 Katie Boyle 11.00 Jimmy Young 1.05pm David Jacobs 2.00 Gloria Hunniford 4.00 Don Maclean 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Journey into Space: The Red Planet (18 of 20) (r) 7.30 Friday Night is Music Night. Live from the Orchard Theatre, Dartford, with the BBC Concert Orchestra under Robin Stapleton 9.30 Listen to the Band 10.00 The Radio 2 Arts Programme. Live from Manchester: Hunter Davies talks to A S Byatt, the 1990 Booker Prize winner, and meets Bernard Wrigley and Mike Harding, who are appearing in Waiting for Godot at the Bolton Octagon 12.05am Jazz Parade 12.35-4.00 Andrew Lane with Night Ride

RADIO 5

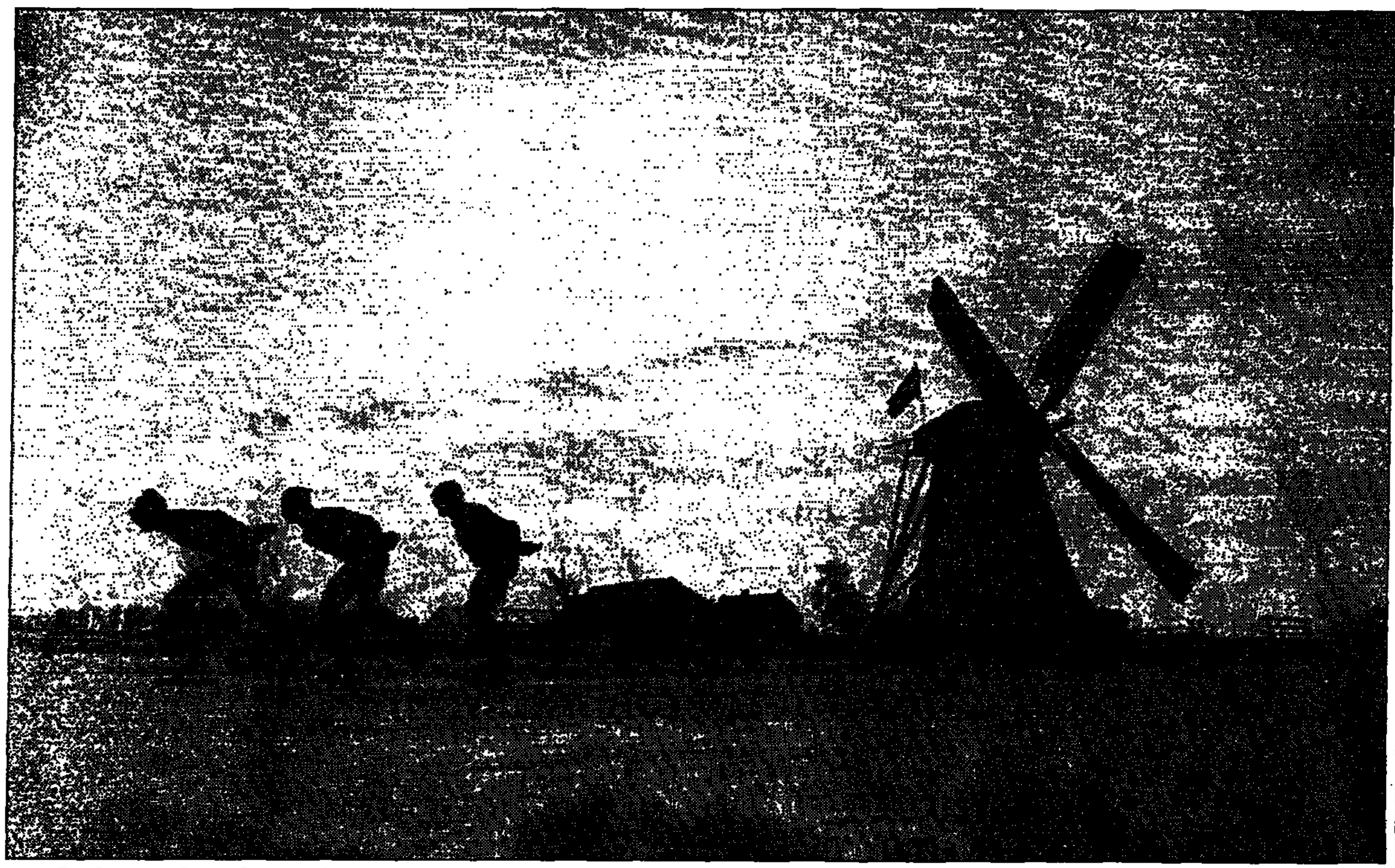
6.00am World Service: Newsdesk 6.30 Morning Edition 9.00 Schools 10.25 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 for toddlers 10.40 This Family Business, incl 11.00 Sport 12.00 News, Sport 12.30pm Beyond the Costas: Romantic Spain (1 of 2) 1.00 Sport 1.05 As Radio 3 2.00 Sport 2.05 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 (broadcast at 10.25am) 2.30 World Service: Meridian Books 3.00 Sport 3.05 Outlook 3.30 Focus on Faith 4.00 Sport 4.05 Caribbean Magazine 4.35 Five Aside 7.20 Revenge of the Wildcat. Read by John Leslie (final episode) 7.35 Maisson Investigates! The Mystery of Hypnosis. Another case for private investigator Ed Maisson 8.00 Afro-Pop 9.00 In the Hot Seat: Kenneth Clarke, MP, the education and science secretary 9.30 Rave, incl 10.00, 11.00 Sport 11.08 World Service: Worldbrief 11.23 From the Weeklies 11.38 The World Today 11.53 Words of Faith 11.58-12.05am Sports Desk

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. 5.00am Morgenmagazin 5.35 News in German, Headlines in English and French 5.47 Press Review 5.52 Financial News 5.58 Weather and Travel News 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 Londres Matin 6.59 Weather 7.00 World News 7.15 24 Hours 8.00 World News 8.09 Words of Faith 8.15 Music Review 9.00 World News 9.15 Folk in Britain 9.30 Financial News 9.38 Sports Roundup 9.45 Seven Seas 10.00 World News 10.15 Focus on Faith 10.30 The Story of Western Music 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Mid Magazine 11.59 Travel News 12.00 World News 12.15pm The Reith Lectures Interview 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 World News 1.15 24 Hours 2.00 World News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Off the Shelf: The Hobbit 2.45 Backing the Canvas: The Auctioneer 3.00 World News 3.15 Music Review 4.00 World News 4.15 BBC English 4.30 Heute Aktuell 5.00 World News 5.15 Network UK 5.30 Londres Soir 6.14 News Summary in English 6.15 BBC English 6.30 Heute Aktuell 7.00 German Features 7.54 News in German 8.00 World News 8.09 Here's Humph! 8.25 Words of Faith 8.30 Science in Action 9.00 World News 9.15 People and Politics 9.45 Sports Roundup 10.00 Newshour 11.00 World News 11.15 Letter from America 11.30 Multitrack 3 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30am From the Weeklies 12.45 Recording of the Week 1.00 News 1.15 Outlook 1.40 Financial News 1.45 Here's Humph! 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 People and Politics 3.00 World News 3.15 Network UK 3.30 The Vintage Chart Show 3.59 Weather 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Here's Humph! 4.45 News and Press Review in German

COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND GILLIAN MAXEY
TV CHOICE PETER WAYMARK/RADIO CHOICE PETER DAVALLE

SEAN CONNERY
MICHELLE PFEIFFER
JOHN le CARRÉ'S
THE RUSSIA HOUSE
15
FROM FRIDAY FEB. 22nd
AT CINEMAS
ACROSS THE COUNTRY



Dutch treat: early morning enthusiasts at Zevenhuizen take advantage of the north European freeze which has turned the canals of Holland into a skaters' paradise

Weather centre predicts a comparative heatwave

By David Young

PREDICTIONS of a positive thaw have been made by the Meteorological Office, which has said that freezing temperatures, which have dropped regularly at night to minus 12C are expected to rise as high as 10C in some parts of the country today.

A spokesman at the London Weather Centre said: "It's a positive heatwave, compared with what we've had. The weekend looks like it will be a bit colder again, but nothing like what we've had over the past week. The big thaw is on."

As the road and rail network returns to normal, however, the thaw is likely to bring further misery with scores of burst pipes triggering possible water shortages. A spokesman for Thames Water, one of the UK's largest suppliers, said: "We are generally getting on top of it at the moment, but we are going to be very busy over the next few days."

At least 150 teams of engineers are trying to repair burst mains and restore supplies to homes still without water. Thames has urged Londoners to cut their water consumption as bursts have left almost 700 reservoirs around the capital virtually empty.

Freezing fog and icy patches were still causing some problems on the roads yesterday, with speed restrictions on a number of motorways including the M25, M3 and M23. At Gatwick airport five flights had to be diverted because of freezing fog.

The fog meant that Britain's newest motorway suffered its first bout of "motorway madness" with 100 vehicles involved in a series of accidents on an eight-mile stretch which left one woman dead and 23 people injured.

The accidents occurred in freezing fog on the new stretch of the M40 near Bicester, north of Oxford. Thames Valley police said: "People were driving like kamikazes. You could barely see your hand in front of your face but some people were still doing over 70. They just ran straight into the back of each other.

"It started as a relatively minor accident. It grew until more than 100 vehicles were involved, on both sides. People were driving far too fast and, as always, motorists rubberneck to take a look when there's been an accident and cause another one."

Hospitals in the Oxford region called in off-duty nurses as a fleet of ambulances ferried the injured from the scene. It took ambulance crews more than two hours to get all the injured to hospital. Tony Baldry, the environment minister and Banbury MP, whose constituency covers the site, said: "The highway authorities and the police must now come forward with any suggestions that they feel might be necessary following this appalling incident."

In the Midlands, Ian Cartwright died after his car skidded off an icy road into a frozen canal yesterday. Mr Cartwright, aged 39, a council official at Sandwell in the West Midlands died in his car.

As Sir Bob Reid, the British Rail chairman, met Malcolm Rifkind, the transport secretary, to discuss BR's much-criticised performance during the cold snap, the trains were getting back to normal.

Most areas, said BR, were providing services with only isolated problems causing delays. BR's Western Region reported no problems, but there were delays and cancellations for commuters travelling between Norwich and London in Anglian Region after locomotive failures earlier today. BR Southern Region, one of the worst affected areas, was getting back on schedule with an "almost normal" timetable and no serious delays, though some trains were still out of service being repaired.

Janet Daly, page 14
In a jam, page 32

Warning issued after beefburger poisoning

Continued from page 1

coli 0157 bacteria, have been identified nationally. Although some of them had eaten beefburgers, the restaurant chain is not implicated.

The health department is asking environmental health officers to check the cooking procedures for beefburgers when visiting restaurants and cooked food outlets. Sir Donald said there had been a steady increase in cases of illness caused by the bacteria in the past few years, with about 380 cases reported in Britain last year.

"Fortunately, the number of cases is relatively small, but the organism can lead to bloody diarrhoea and, occasionally, go on to kidney failure," he said. Until the Preston outbreak, public health specialists had been unable to identify possible sources of the infection.

"This organism is heat-sensitive and can be readily destroyed by proper cooking. I have been delighted by the positive response of those who have met and discussed this matter with the department and I see no reason why consumers should not continue to enjoy their products," Sir Donald said. "As far as the domestic consumer is concerned, there is no need for further precautions other than ensuring that the beefburgers are thoroughly cooked *right* through." A statement issued by McDonald's Hamburgers Ltd in north London yesterday said tests carried out at its Preston branch and meat suppliers had not detected the bacteria.

"The health department is satisfied with McDonald's quick response to this problem," it said. "McDonald's strives at all times to serve only the highest quality products quickly and efficiently in clean and hygienic surroundings."

Health officials believe the source of the Preston outbreak was an infected animal carcass and that the infection was spread through the meat during the mincing process.

Political sketch

Treasures from the back of a tractor

MR MENZIES Campbell (Lib-Dem, Fife NE) had put down a written question asking the minister of agriculture what equipment has been stolen from his department over the last three years. This week the reply was published.

1987/88 was a bad year. A pen set, pencil sharpeners and two compasses disappeared — that much, perhaps, was to be expected; and nor will we shed many tears over the three pocket calculators, the Stylon tape or the optical square. At £440, though, the loss of the Grundig stenorettes is a blow. What are they? And what is a Beckman rota? They come at £4,800, apparently.

To me, though, the real mystery is the missing beekeeping equipment and binoculars. What was John MacGregor (then minister) up to? Did it involve the "club hammer", tripod and strimmer? One thing is certain: for Mr MacGregor's thinning locks, the hairdryer (a snippet, I think, at £8.99) will not be missed.

1989/90 went better; the accumulated value of losses being £2,417.56 as compared with the previous year's £6,383.46. But who nicked the "aluminium irrigation equipment"? Hard to slip out, under your coat, through a side door on to Whitehall, surely; and even harder to remove the "patio set" at the same time. Maybe the binocular-snatcher (a third pair disappeared in 1989) was keeping look out? The stepladders (£20) may have helped. Where the "spare wheel and tyre" (£58.19) came in is baffling.

Last year started badly with the disappearance of a toolbox (£220). It got worse when a "TV and cassette radio" were missed; and, as if the subsequent loss of a video camera (£800) were not enough, the sorry tale culminated in the mislaying of a Land-Rover (£7,830) which has still to be retrieved. The loss of a hotplate (£30) we can overlook.

And if Mr Gummer (now the minister) hopes to ward off burglars with the ministry bird-scarer (£242) he can forget it. It was half-inched in 1989.

Relative to these excitements, PM's questions yesterday lacked suspense. It was certainly not Mr Major's day and it was hardly Mr Kinnock's either. They "clashed" routinely on something — one forgets already what — probably the economy. If, for one of its famous competitions, *The Spectator* invited entrants to place the most exotic vocabulary of which they could conceive (yesterday I wrote "*cut & run, incompetence, burning and laceration, degrading, magnificent, temptation...*" into my notebook) within a context as flat as they could contrive, then the winner would almost certainly be reporting PM's questions.

There was, I suppose, a joke. Hugh Dykes (C, Harrow E) was pleased to note that Mr Major had not found his trip to the Continent "too Bruge-ing" an experience. Hardly a top-grade joke when I coined it myself, here, eight months ago, time has not been kind to this one.

No. Neither Mr Kinnock nor Mr Major took the prize. Events conspired to make Mr Menhennet by far the most interesting event of the afternoon. Deservedly, I understand. David Menhennet is the chief Commons librarian, and has announced his intention to retire. His deputy, Mr Dermot Englefield is to succeed him.

"As chairman of the libraries sub-committee," Colin Shepherd (C, Hereford) congratulated "this remarkable duo." The Speaker, the Father of the House (Sir Bernard Braine), the Leader of the House and his Labour shadow, dwelt variously upon Mr Menhennet's qualities. "As chairman of the House of Commons commission" Alan Beith found that Mr Menhennet "personified the qualities of a library". An alarming thought for Mrs Menhennet and the children.

LATE NEWS: The Serious Fraud Squad has lost three screwdrivers (£1.20p).

Matthew Parris

Lithuania celebrates Iceland triumph

From Mary Dejevsky
in Moscow

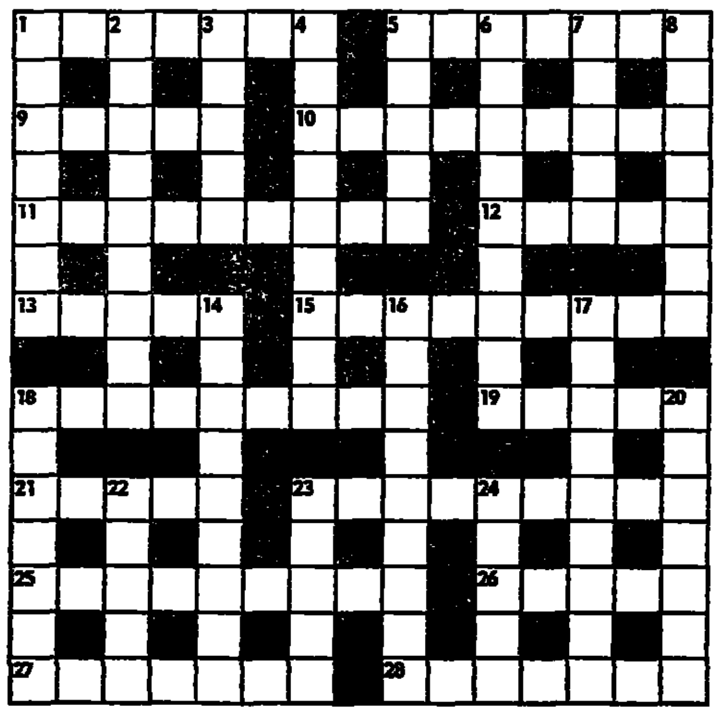
MOSCOW yesterday recalled its ambassador to Iceland in protest against the Reykjavik parliament's decision to establish diplomatic relations with Lithuania. According to the Soviet foreign ministry spokesman, Vitali Churkin, Iceland's ambassador in Moscow was called to the Soviet foreign ministry late on Wednesday night to be informed of the decision and receive a stiff note of protest.

Iceland is the first country to offer full diplomatic recognition to one of the Baltic republics and Moscow's fierce response suggests that it wants to deter other countries from following its lead.

The Soviet note described Iceland's decision as being "without substance" in so far as "Lithuania remains a constituent republic of the Soviet Union". It accused Iceland of "interfering in the Soviet Union's internal affairs" and in its "internal constitutional process", and said that any steps taken by Iceland to implement its decision would "breach Iceland's obligations under the United Nations Charter, the Helsinki Final Act and other basic CSCE documents. As such," it added, "Iceland's attempt should be decisively rebuffed".

Iceland's decision was greeted as a foreign policy triumph in Vilnius.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 18,530



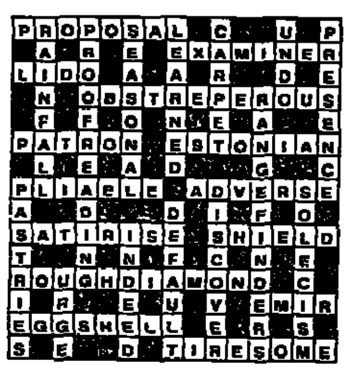
ACROSS

1 Business and practice share premises (7).
5 Way a bird collected parts of flowers (7).
9 Joined a large number and consumed half as much again (5).
10 It's doubly in the way (9).
11 Desert leader with irregular army rode this, possibly (9).
12 Material from writer initially lacking copyright (5).
13 Beguile a lot of finches (5).
15 Inferior situation he's in, not I (5-4).
18 Modified cost to college for garments (9).
19 Mock wolf (5).
21 Heeds pronouncement of King (5).
23 Watering-hole simple to find on second hill (9).
25 How MP may be viewed as political leader? (4,5).
26 Quiet colleen in Indian city (5).
27 Bird seen in spring by river-bank (7).
28 Head towards the game, having departed before 10 (4,3).

DOWN

1 Amusing fellow-doctor (7).
2 Lancashire speciality at the Oval — sticky wicket? (3,6).
3 Distinctive mark of hound — no tail (5).
4 Waterproof material sailor and tentmaker get in (9).
5 Unctuous, like some TV programmes? (5).
6 River barges I'm moving round stuff floating in water (9).
7 Hard discussion method used by Socrates... (5).
8 ...to question one about point that's not straightforward (7).
14 Remodels styles which have finished (5,4).
16 'Twas odd to find antelope in the wilderness (9).
17 A maul soon broken up, being against the rules (9).
18 Struggles to get runs in seaside town (7).
20 Knowing history needed for RAF spectacle (3-4).
22 Officer has same again, a non-alcoholic drink (5).
23 Kate's the ringleader in old-fashioned display (5).
24 It's a little bit of Greek, apparently (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,529



WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

SLEECH
a. A vet
b. Slimy mud
c. A double hem stitch

HALICORE
a. The dugong
b. A salt crystal
c. Holy of holies in a temple

CUMSHAW
a. A gift or tip
b. A small North African orange
c. A small carriage

SKIPPET
a. A one-year-old sheep
b. A flat document box
c. A basket

Answers on page 20

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
C. London (within N & S Circs.)	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T.	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M23	734
M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 33p per minute (cheap rate) and 44p per minute at all other times.

Concise crossword page 17

Two companies who can design your employee private health scheme . . . you and WPA together.
Make sure with
WPA
Health Insurance
70 Redcliffe Street, Bristol BS1 6LS.
Tel: 0272 766669. Fax: 0272 225677.

WEATHER

In most of the UK it will be overcast and dull with outbreaks of rain, which will start as sleet and wet snow over eastern areas. However, fresh snow in places will gradually thaw. North and northeast Scotland will be brighter with a few showers which could be wintry in the northern isles. These conditions may spread to northeast England in the afternoon. Outlook: dull and misty before becoming colder

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	11	52	f	Malaga	13	55	s
Akrotiri	18	64	s	Malta	17	63	c
Alex'dria	22	72	s	Melb'rne	19	66	c
Algiers	7	45	r	Mexico C*	22	72	s
Amst'dm	0	32	sn	Miami*	24	75	f
Athens	16	61	s	Milan	0	32	s
Barcelna	8	46	s	Montreal*	-7	19	f
Belgrade	0	32	s	Moscow	-5	23	s
Berlin	-4	25	sn	Munich	-4	25	sn
Bermuda*	17	63	s	Naples	8	46	c
Biarritz	4	39	s	N Delhi	21	70	s
Borde'x	2	36	s	N York*	4	39	f
Brussels	0	32	s	Nice	7	45	f
Budapest	-2	28	s	Oslo	-6	21	s
B Aires*	21	70	f	Paris	1	34	f
Cairo	24	75	s	Peking	5	41	c
Cape Tn	21	70	s	Perth	25	77	s
C'blanca	14	57	c	Prague	-7	19	sn
Ch'church	23	73	s	Reykjvik	7	45	f
Cologne	-3	27	sn	Rhodes	15	59	f
C'phagn	-5	23	sn	Rio de J	29	84	f
Corfu	10	50	c	Rome	7	45	f
Dublin	5	41	r	Salzburg	-2	28	c
Dubrovnik	7	45	f	S F'risco*	14	57	s
Faro	14	57	s	Santiago*	32	90	s
Florence	5	41	s	S Paulo*	27	81	f
Frankfurt	-2	28	f	Seoul	10	50	c
Funchal	16	61	c	Sing'por	32	90	f
Geneva	-1	30	s	St'kholm	-5	23	sn
Gibraltar	14	57	s	Strasb'rg	-3	27	f
Helsinki	-7	19	sn	Sydney	39	102	s
Hong K	21	70	c	Tangier	14	57	f
Innsbrck	-1	30	s	Tenerife	18	64	c
Istanbul	12	54	s	Tokyo	12	54	s
Jo'burg*	27	81	f	Toronto*	-1	30	c
L Palmas	18	64	c	Tunis	9	48	r
Le Tquet	3	37	f	Valencia	11	52	f
Lisbon	10	50	s	Vanc'ver*	8	46	f
Locarno	1	34	s	Venice	3	37	s
L Angels*	16	61	s	Vienna	0	32	f
Luxembg	-2	28	f	Warsaw	-4	25	sn
Luxor	25	77	s	Wash'ton*	8	46	f
Madrid	6	43	s	Wel'nton	22	72	s
Majorca	11	52	f	Zurich	-3	27	s

* denotes figures are latest available

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	5.9	-	5	41	sunny
Anglesey	7.5	-	5	41	sunny
Aviemore	4.3	-	3	37	snow
Belfast	3.4	-	3	37	fog
Birmingham	5.1	-	3	37	sunny
Blackpool	7.9	-	4	39	sunny
Bournemouth	7.1	-	5	41	sunny
Brighton	4.6	.35	1	34	sunny
Bristol	1.7	-	4	39	bright
Buxton	7.5	.02	1	34	sunny
Cardiff	2.3	-	3	37	bright
Clacton	0.1	.02	1	34	fog
Cromer	4.7	-	4	39	sunny
Douglas	8.5	-	6	43	sunny
Edinburgh	7.7	-	4	39	sunny
Eskdalemuir	8.5	-	3	37	sunny
Exmouth	5.0	.01	4	39	sunny
Glasgow	8.3	-	4	39	sunny
Guernsey	2.6	.17	7	45	hail
Hastings	1.5	.44	1	34	bright
Kinloss	2.4	-	4	39	cloudy
Leeds	6.0	-	4	39	sunny
Lerwick	4.7	-	5	41	sunny
London	0.1	x	3	37	cloudy
Lowestoft	2.5	-	2	36	fog
Manchester	7.2	-	5	41	sunny
Minehead	2.0	.01	4	39	bright
Nottingham	7.7	.02	3	37	sunny
Penzance	8.8	.04	7	45	sunny
Plymouth	6.8	-	5	41	sunny
Saunton Snd	-	-	6	43	sunny
Scarborough	6.3	.07	3	37	sunny
Scilly Isles	8.4	.01	7	45	sunny
Shanklin	6.8	.04	3	37	sunny
Southend	-	.01	1	34	fog
Stornoway	6.2	-	7	45	sunny
Teignmouth	5.6	-	5	41	sunny
Tenby	4.8	.01	5	41	sunny
Tiree	7.8	–	7	45	sunny
Torquay	5.1	-	6	43	sunny
Weymouth	7.2	.01	6	43	sunny
Wick	2.1	-	5	41	sunny
Worthing	4.9	.43	2	36	sunny

These are Wednesday's figures

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0898 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Gloucs,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 33p per minute (cheap rate) and 44p per minute at all other times

LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 6C (43F); min 6 pm to 6 am, -2C (28F). Humidity: 6 pm, 62 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, trace. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 5.9 hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,021.2 millibars, falling.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Wednesday: Highest day temp: Benbecula, Outer Hebrides, 7C (42F); lowest day max: Scampton, Lincolnshire, 0C (32F); highest rainfall: Eastbourne, East Sussex, and Northolt, west London, 0.59 in; highest sunshine: Penzance, Cornwall, 8.8 hr.

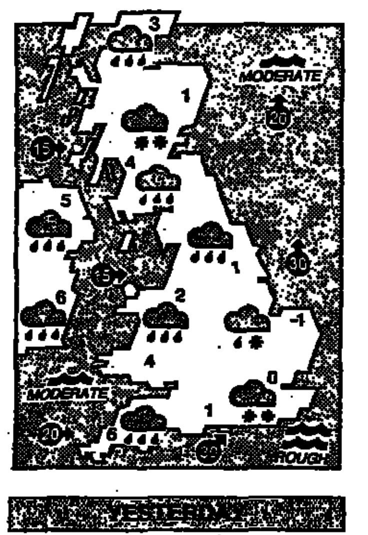
MANCHESTER

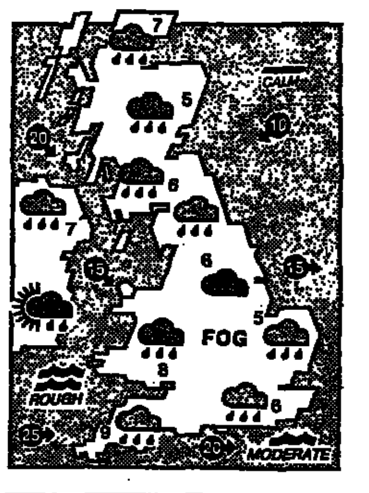
Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 5C (41F); min 6 pm to 6 am, -4C (25F). Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 6.0 hr.

GLASGOW

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 5C (41F); min 6 pm to 6 am, -5C (23F). Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.02 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 1.4 hr.

AM





YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	3	37	r	Guernsey	6	43	f
B'rmgham	2	36	s	Inverness	4	39	f
Blackpool	2	36	f	Jersey	4	39	c
Bristol	4	39	f	London	3	37	s
Cardiff	3	37	c	M'nchster	2	36	s
Edinburgh	3	37	f	Newcastle	3	37	s
Glasgow	3	37	f	R'nldsway	6	43	c

LIGHTING-UP TIMES

London 5.15 pm to 7.14 am
Bristol 5.25 pm to 7.33 am
Edinburgh 5.14 pm to 7.37 am
Manchester 5.18 pm to 7.27 am
Penzance 5.39 pm to 7.32 am

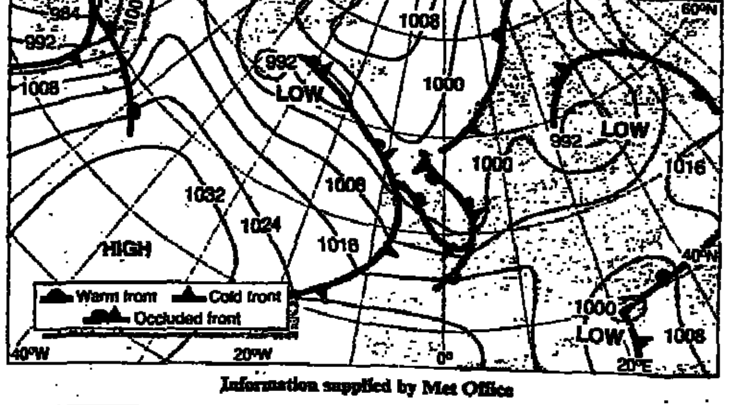
Sun rises: 7.16 am
Sun sets: 5.15 pm
Moon rises 7.16 am
Moon sets 6.30 pm

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	2.12	6.9	2.36	7.0	Liverpool	11.44	9.3		
Aberdeen	1.47	4.1	1.42	4.3	Lowestoft	10.16	2.2	10.00	2.5
Avonmouth	7.42	12.8	7.59	12.9	Margate	12.12	4.8	12.46	4.5
Belfast	11.26	3.4	11.47	3.2	Milford Haven	6.42	6.9	6.59	6.8
Cardiff	7.27	12.0	7.44	11.9	Newquay	5.32	6.9	5.49	6.8
Devonport	6.29	5.5	6.51	5.4	Oban	6.17	4.1	6.34	3.9
Dover	11.32	6.3	11.49	6.5	Penzance	5.26	5.6	5.49	5.5
Falmouth	5.59	5.3	6.21	5.2	Portland	7.25	2.1	7.53	2.0
Glasgow	1.20	4.3	1.34	4.7	Portsmouth	12.04	4.4	11.57	4.4
Harwich	12.05	3.7	12.29	3.8	Shoreham	11.36	6.0		
Holyhead	10.45	5.6	11.05	5.3	Southampton	11.22	4.4	11.50	4.5
Hull	6.50	7.0	6.53	7.5	Swansea	6.49	9.2	7.04	9.1
Ilfracombe	6.27	9.0	6.43	8.9	Tees	4.14	5.0	4.16	5.3
King's Lynn	7.04	6.2	7.01	6.6	W'ton-on-Nze			12.21	4.0
Leith	3.05	5.3	3.10	5.5					

Tide in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

NOON TODAY



Information supplied by Met Office

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هيكل من الاهرام

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THE TIMES
BUSINESS
FRIDAY FEBRUARY 15 1991

Business Editor
John Bell

Pound's rally clipped

BETTER than expected labour market data enabled the pound to stage a modest rally after it opened on a firm note following Wednesday's half-point cut in base rates.

But sterling's advance was short-lived and it slipped back as dealers started to look ahead to today's retail price index, expected to show annual inflation decelerating to about 9 per cent in January.

Still at the bottom of the European exchange-rate mechanism, the pound closed virtually unchanged against the grid's anchor currency at DM2.9044 and fell more than a cent to $1.9805.

Hopes of further interest rate cuts in the weeks ahead brought institutional investors back into the stock market. The FT-SE 100 index surged 40 points early on but closed up 26.6 at 2,294.4, as more than 700 million shares changed hands.

Markets, page 28

Currency hurts BOC profits

BOC Group says adverse currency movements had a significant impact in the three months ended December. BOC had an operating profit of £89.4 million, against £97.3 million, and pre-tax profits of £71.4 million (£81.5 million).

Tempus, page 25

Builder falls

Crest Nicholson, the property development, construction and house-building group, reports pre-tax profits fell from £37.1 million to £8.1 million for the year to October. The 4.65p final dividend makes an unchanged 7.65p.

Tempus, page 25

THE POUND

US dollar
1.9805 (–0.0120)

German mark
2.9044 (+0.0003)

Exchange index
94.4 (–0.2)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1817.5 (+25.8)

FT-SE 100
2294.4 (+26.6)

New York Dow Jones
2914.85 (+5.69)*

Tokyo Nikkei Avge
25356.37 (+216.90)

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 13½%
3-month Interbank 13³⁄₁₆-13¹⁄₁₆%
3-month eligible bills: 12½-12⅜%
US: Prime Rate 9%
Federal Funds 6⁹⁄₁₆%*
3-month Treasury Bills 5.86-5.85%*
30-year bonds 99-99¹⁄₁₆*

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£ $1.9805	£ $1.9810*
£ DM2.9044	$ DM1.4661*
£ SwFr2.4885	$ SwFr1.2565*
£ FFr9.8917	$ FFr4.9955*
£ Yen256.97	$ Yen129.70*
£ Index 94.4	$ Index 59.7
ECU £0.705495	SDR £0.729565
£ ECU1.417444	£ SDR1.370679

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
Ladbroke	248½p (+13p)
Pearson	697½p (+23p)
Daejan	747½p (+23p)
ICI	995½p (+16p)
RMC Group	702½p (+23p)
MAM	542½p (+23p)
Cornwall Parker 'A'	136p (+15p)
Amersham	347p (+12p)
Warner	215p (+15p)
Baggeridge Brick	90½p (+13p)
Wace	214½p (+15p)
M Clark	375p (+15p)
Grand Met	734p (+20p)
Vaux Group	217½p (+12p)
Delta	340½p (+13p)
Micro Focus	947½p (+50p)
P&P	79½p (+18p)
THORN EMI	672½p (+28p)
FALLS:	
Br Borneo	562½p (–10p)
NSM	20½p (–11p)

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM $366.85 pm-$368.15
close $367.90-368.40 (£185.50-186.00)
New York:
Comex $370.25-370.75*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Mar) .... $19.80 bbl ($20.20)
*Denotes latest trading price

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.595	2.445
Austria Sch	21.40	20.00
Belgium Fr	62.50	58.50
Canada $	2.403	2.253
Denmark Kr	11.67	10.97
Finland Mkk	7.44	6.99
France Fr	10.29	9.64
Germany Dm	3.035	2.835
Greece Dr	331	311
Hong Kong $	15.95	15.15
Ireland Pt	1.14	1.07
Italy Lira	2280	2140
Japan Yen	271	256
Netherlands Gld	3.415	3.205
Norway Kr	11.87	11.17
Portugal Esc	267	251
South Africa Rd	5.55	4.95
Spain Pta	189	178
Sweden Kr	11.38	10.70
Switzerland Fr	2.585	2.425
Turkey Lira	6600	5900
USA $	2.07	1.95
Yugoslavia Dnr	35.00	27.00

Rates for small denomination bank only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques

Retail Price Index: 129.9 (December)

Investment hit as output fall quickens

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE fall in Britain's manufacturing output has quickened dramatically as the recession deepens with the downward trend now running at an annual 8 per cent, according to official estimates.

Central Statistical Office figures illustrating the deteriorating picture in output were accompanied by data showing that companies are adjusting to the counter-inflationary squeeze by cutting back investment plans severely.

In the final quarter of 1990, manufacturers' capital spending was a provisional £2.66 billion, more than 7 per cent below the previous quarter and more than 15 per cent lower than the final quarter of 1989.

Total expenditure was the lowest since the third quarter of 1987.

Gerard Lyons, chief economist at DKB International, said manufacturing was in a "very weak state indeed". The clear message was that more interest rate cuts would be needed urgently, he said.

The speed of the deterioration was demonstrated in the CSO estimates of the trend fall in manufacturing output. Now running at an annual 8 per cent, it was only last month put at 6 per cent, after 3 per cent the previous month.

In December, manufacturing output showed a small increase, rising a seasonally adjusted 0.3 per cent after a revised 1.4 per cent fall in November.

But the CSO said the rise, the first since last May, was due to a boost to output from the Gulf conflict, largely concentrated in the aerospace industry. Without this, output would have fallen.

In the final quarter of 1990, manufacturing industry produced 2.9 per cent less than in the previous quarter, the biggest quarter-on-quarter drop since January 1981. Compared with the final quarter of 1989, it was down 3 per cent. Overall industrial output, comprising energy and manufacturing production, showed a 0.4 per cent fall in December after a 1.5 per cent fall in November, reflecting continued problems that are restraining North Sea oil and gas output. Without the Gulf effect, the December fall was an estimated 1 per cent.

Final-quarter industrial production was 1.6 per cent below the previous quarter and 3.2 per cent down on the fourth quarter of 1989.

The decline in manufacturing was broadly based, with food, drink and tobacco, which at times seemed recession-proof, falling 0.7 per cent between the latest quarters. Car output was an exception, showing a 2.7 per cent rise over the same period.

For the whole of 1990, industrial output fell 0.5 per cent after 0.5 per cent growth in 1989. Manufacturing showed a similar fall last year, but grew 4.2 per cent the previous year.

Total capital expenditure by manufacturers in 1990 was £11.75 billion, more than 5 per cent lower than the previous year. Spending on motor vehicles dropped almost 18 per cent, while plant, machinery and building expenditure was 5 per cent down.

Gordon Brown, the shadow trade secretary, described the figures for manufacturing investment as "disastrous", saying they meant not only higher unemployment now, but more job losses, bankruptcies, and cuts in future.

"Britain is now the only country in western Europe facing 1992 with investment falling dramatically," he said.

Glenn Davies, chief economist at Credit Lyonnais Securities, said the investment situation was "frightening", but was to be expected given the recession.

Earnings growth stays at 9.75%

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

EARNINGS growth has remained unchanged at a high level, according to the latest official figures.

Ministers believe that the combination of high interest rates, rising unemployment, membership of the European exchange-rate mechanism and other maesures will lead to a drop in the rate of earnings growth.

But yesterday's figures showed earnings increases in December at an underlying rate of 9.75 per cent, the same as in the previous two months, and only marginally down from the high point last July of 10.25 per cent.

In fact, the percentage increase in earnings across the economy measured by the employment department actually rose sharply in December, from 9.3 per cent for the 12 months to November to 10.1 per cent for the same period to December. Officials said this was mainly because of Christmas and year-end bonuses being paid.

Sectorally, the earnings averages look worse. Though the three separate rises for the production, manufacturing and service industries held steady at 9.75 per cent, this was only because the November figures in production and manufacturing have been revised upwards by the department, from 9.5 and 9.25 per cent respectively — suggesting that the stickiness of the earnings figures shows no sign of lessening.

The pressure on earnings is indicated by the fact that three specific pay settlements mentioned by the employment department as feeding into the December earnings rise were all higher this year than in 1989. These were 12 per cent at Peugeot (10.5 per cent last year), 10.5 per cent at Nissan (10.2 per cent) and 9 per cent in the clothing industry (7.5 per cent).

Michael Howard, the employment secretary, said that because unit wage costs were continuing to rise faster than those of Britain's competitors, wage bargainers needed more than ever to think about the consequences of their actions.

Bank view on inflation clouds Major's message

By ANATOLE KALETSKY, ECONOMICS EDITOR

THERE has been "little sign" of a fall in Britain's underlying inflation, the Bank of England said yesterday, casting doubt on repeated assertions by the prime minister that interest rates would be cut only when underlying inflation was clearly on the way down.

In its quarterly bulletin, the Bank expresses unease about some of the economic consequences of membership of the European exchange-rate mechanism. Although the Bank reiterates its support for the government's opposition to currency realignments in the ERM, it also acknowledges that the combination of ERM entry and German reunification posed an "awkward dilemma".

The only way out of this would be for Britain to have lower inflation than Germany, the Bank said.

"Despite the move into recession, there is as yet little sign that either earnings growth or underlying inflation has declined," the bulletin said.

Although the "headline" inflation rate, including mortgage and poll tax payments, had fallen sharply and would continue to do so, unit labour costs were still rising much faster than in other major ERM countries.

The bulletin was written well before last Monday's unexpected announcement that producer price inflation was still running at the peak rate of 6.3 per cent, recorded last summer before the recession began.

The Bank has long considered producer prices a key indicator of underlying inflation and its comments therefore appeared to undercut Treasury reassurances that the producer price figures were a misleading aberration and John Major's statement in the Commons that they were "suspect".

Officials made it clear, however, that the Bank's concern about the underlying inflation rate did not reflect any disagreement with the Treasury over the timing of this week's cut in interest rates.

Indeed, there were indications that the Bank's thinking is moving away from the hardline view that interest rates can be cut only after inflation is seen to be falling. Bank economists are stressing that a pronounced fall in underlying inflation tends to come only near the end of a recessionary cycle.

Administrative receivers called in at plastic bag maker

Sainsbury's carries recycling further

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

THERE are fashions in carrier bags too as Gaynor Group, a USM quoted company based in Manchester, has discovered to its cost. The group, which employs 93 people, has been placed in administrative receivership after the suspension of its shares at 7½p a week ago.

The group has been beset with problems and has gone under with liabilities of £4.1 million. The downturn in retail spending has affected the business, as have the higher costs of raw materials in the wake of the Gulf conflict. But its main problem has been its inability to keep up with the changing trends in plastic bag manufacture.

Gaynor lost two large supermarket customers, Gateway and Wm Morrison, last year when the chains switched from the heavier, more expensive, low density carrier bags to cheaper, thinner, high density bags that Gaynor was not equipped to manufacture. The trend towards paper carrier bags has not helped the group either.

The administrative receivers, Grahame Watts and Kenneth Chalk of Touche Ross, were called in by National Westminster Bank and Rothschild Trust Management. They are optimistic about selling the business as a going concern. Stripped of its liabilities, the group is profitable. Already the receivers have had calls from seven interested parties. There have been no redundancies so far.

To add to plastic bag manufacturers' headaches, J Sainsbury may have started a new fashion. Having switched from thick to thin plastic bags and from thin plastic bags to recycled plastic bags Sainsbury's is offering its customers 1p if they bring their own bags to the stores.

Sainsbury's customers use 10 million plastic bags a week and the group spends £9.36 million a year on them. Increasing concern about the environment led to the group's environmental affairs committee dreaming up the 1p bag scheme.

Sainsbury's believes the scheme will save 50 million bags a year, the equivalent of 1 million gallons of oil or 1,000 tonnes of plastic. The move saves £900,000 a year but it is not a cost cutting exercise for Sainsbury. After giving the customer the 1p back, the rest of the money is eaten up in the costs of administering the scheme. Customers are encouraged to give their pennies to charity and the group belives £500,000 a year could be raised for charity this way.

BP warning with £1.6bn profit

By MARTIN BARROW

BP expects to incur substantial stock losses in the first quarter of this year because of the sharp fall in oil prices since the start of war in the Gulf.

The warning was announced with profits of £1.676 billion (£1.744 billion), for last year, calculated on a historic cost basis, including stock gains of £472 million. Profits fell despite average oil prices of nearly $24 a barrel, $6 higher than in 1989.

On a replacement cost basis, which excludes the impact of oil stocks, profits fell from £1.361 billion to £1.204 billion despite a final quarter recovery from £345 million to £456 million. Earnings fell from 31.8p a share to 31.3p. A final quarterly dividend of 4.20p a share takes the total for the year to 16.05p (14.90p).

Operating profits from exploration and production rose from £1.574 billion to £2.086 billion, including almost £400 million from disposals. Refining and marketing increased its contribution from £732 million to £853 million, despite a poor fourth quarter, in which earnings fell from £248 million to £115 million.

Chemical activities contributed £7 million in the last quarter, and reported annual profits down from £548 million to £129 million.

Robert Horton, the chairman, expects the price of oil to remain close to the current level of $20 a barrel in the short term, rising later in the year. However, David Simon, the deputy chairman and chief operating officer, added that the total dividend, up less than 8 per cent, "underlines our cautious approach".

Tempus, page 25

Optimism on oil: Robert Horton, BP's chairman, expects prices to rise later this year

Big banks in Europe 'may have to merge'

By JONATHAN PRYNN

INTERNATIONAL competitive pressures in the Nineties may trigger huge mergers of European banks to create institutions capable of presenting a global challenge to American and Japanese banks, according to a director of the Bank of England.

At a conference on international banking, Brian Quinn, the Bank's executive director responsible for banking supervision, said that regulators should consider "very carefully the wider benefits" that such mergers could bring. However, in the short term, national considerations make it unlikely that "significant foreign ownership of core banking institutions" will take place.

He said: "It may in time become easier to accept that Europe's wider interests, not just in promoting the efficiency of banks within Europe but also in enhancing their ability to compete for business around the world, may lie in allowing some very large pan-European banks to develop."

Mr Quinn, who is the chairman of a supervisory sub-committee of the EC central bank governors, hinted that Brussels would not automatically seek to block big bank mergers. "Central bankers and regulators would be prepared to look at each proposal," he said, though it was not their task "to promote such alliances actively".

Rather, opposition to bank mergers would be stongest at national level because of government fears about big domestic banks falling into foreign hands.

Bank mergers are likely to be most frequent among smaller banks.

BT surprises City with 13% third-quarter rise

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

BRITISH Telecom's pre-tax profits for the third quarter to end-December rose 13.2 per cent to £787 million, well ahead of most City forecasts, despite signs that the recession is slowing the growth of business. Iain Vallance, the chairman, said growth in use of telephones was likely to slow further.

Income from international calls fell 2 per cent in the last three months of 1990, the first drop on record. The setback followed price cuts and much slower growth, of 5 per cent, in the volume of calls, compared with a moving 12 months average of 9 per cent.

Inland calls grew 2 per cent in the third quarter, a third of their annual rate of growth, but revenue grew 6 per cent due to price increases last autumn. Total group turnover rose 6.3 per cent to £3.3 billion.

The growth in profits came from control of costs and working capital. Barry Romeril, the finance director, said revenue was lower than expected, but profits had benefited from "attention to detail and value for money". Savings are expected to continue in the last quarter.

Capital spending was held back to £690 million by savings on land, buildings and engineering stores. Mr Romeril expects spending for the year to be slightly lower than the £3 billion expected at the start of the year. He said the shortfall would be real savings rather than postponement of spending.

Over the first nine months of the financial year, group pre-tax profits rose 15.5 per cent to £2.32 billion on a 7.9 per cent rise in turnover to £9.675 billion. Earnings per share climbed 15 per cent to 25p. BT's share capital has risen £150 million due to employees taking up share options at the end of the group's first five-year savings scheme.

Mr Vallance warned shareholders that prospects would be affected by the outcome of the government's telephone duopoly review, over which BT has argued that the planned move to unrestricted competition should be matched by the scrapping of many existing and proposed restrictions on its own operations and charging structures.

Doug Henderson, the Labour party's telecommunications spokesman, called for BT's future pricing structure to be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission rather than be fixed after secret arguments with regulators and competitors.

A comparison issued by Oftel shows BT's average residential telephone bill is comparable to those in Germany or Italy, but higher than in France, where there is a state monopoly. Business bills are lower in France, but higher in Italy.

Comment, page 25

NatWest
Business Accounts
INTEREST RATES

NatWest announces the following interest rates, effective from 14th February 1991:

Solicitors Reserve Account

Customers not affected by CRT		Customers affected by CRT	
Gross Interest per annum	Balance	Net Interest per annum	Gross equivalent per annum to a basic rate taxpayer
	Instant Access - No minimum deposit/ withdrawal		
12.125%	£250,000 and above	9.00%	12.00%
12.125%	£100,000 - £249,999	9.00%	12.00%
11.75%	£25,000 - £99,999	8.75%	11.67%
11.375%	£2,000 - £24,999	8.50%	11.33%
8.50%	£500 - £1,999	6.375%	8.50%

National Westminster Bank PLC
41 Lothbury London EC2P 2BP

Connell buys Pru's western estate agency for £4.5m

By MATTHEW BOND

PRUDENTIAL Assurance has now disposed of 290 of its 500 unwanted estate agency offices. In its second disposal the Pru is selling 99 offices to Connell, the estate agent subsidiary of Scottish Widows.

The sale once again illustrates how dramatically the fortunes of estate agency have changed. Prudential spent six years and £330 million on creating its estate agency division, which at one point approached 800 offices.

By contrast, Scottish Widows has been in the business just five months. Its latest acquisition gives it more than 200 offices, acquired at a total outlay of £52.8 million. Scottish Widows' most expensive foray was its first, when it spent £48.3 million on an agreed takeover of Connell last September, a deal which brought with it 112 residential offices, 19 commercial branches and the Connell management.

Bargains: Newmarch's sales

Its second acquisition has been much cheaper, with 99 branch offices bought for just £4.5 million. The offices form Prudential's western region, an area not previously covered by Scottish Widows. Connell specialises in London and the south-east.

The sale is Prudential's second since its announced its intention to withdraw from estate agency in November. In January, the Woolwich building society bought Prudential's eastern and Thames regions, 191 offices in all, for £21.75 million.

With two more regions to sell (south east and northern) and only £26.25 million collected to date, Prudential may fall short of the £50 million it had anticipated the estate agencies might fetch. Mick Newmarch, the chief executive, said discussions were continuing with a number of interested parties for the remaining regions.

THE BLUE ARROW TRIAL

Cohen 'agreed scheme'

By ANGELA MACKAY

THE former chief executive of County NatWest, the merchant bank, allegedly sanctioned a scheme where County spent £54 million to give Blue Arrow's £837 million failed rights issue "the appearance of success", a central criminal court jury was told in London yesterday.

Nicholas Purnell, QC, prosecuting on behalf of the Serious Fraud Office, said David Reed phoned Jonathan Cohen and told him he was going to take up almost 10 per cent of the Blue Arrow rights issue to make the placement of the rest of the issue easier.

Mr Reed and Mr Cohen, with eight other defendants, deny a single charge of fraud. The three corporate defendants are County NatWest, NatWest Investment Bank, its parent, and UBS Phillips & Drew Securities.

The individual defendants are Jonathan Cohen, former deputy chief executive of NatWest Investment Bank and chief executive of County NatWest; Stephen Clark, group finance director of County NatWest; David Reed, former executive director and managing director of corporate finance at County NatWest; Nicholas Wells, former County NatWest executive director and a former member of the corporate advisory department; Alan Keat, a partner in the City solicitor Travers Smith Braithwaite, which advised County NatWest on the rights issue; Martin Gibbs, former director of UBS Phillips & Drew, and Christopher Stainforth, former director of UBS Phillips & Drew corporate finance.

Defendant: Alan Keat of Travers Smith Braithwaite

Mr Purnell said the advisers to the issue, County, UBS Phillips & Drew and Dillon Read, met on September 28, 1987, just after the issue had closed. It had only achieved a 38 per cent take-up and the three agreed to spend huge sums to boost the take-up figure secretly to 48 per cent.

Mr Purnell said Mr Reed and Mr Wells telephoned Mr Cohen and John Plastow, one of three deputy chief executives at NatWest Investment Bank. "Mr Plastow accepted there was a problem with the rights issue but did not understand he was being asked to sanction a major investment. He thought he was being informed of a problem and they were taking steps to remedy it," said Mr Purnell. "But as far as Cohen was concerned, he was in no doubt whatsoever."

Later, County issued a press release proclaiming the rights issue a success and UBS P&D placed an advertisement in the *Financial Times* to convey a similar message. The prosecution alleged this was all part of a determined attempt to create a false market in Blue Arrow to enable both groups to sell their shares later.

The case continues.

Sheraton incurs £56.6m losses

By MATTHEW BOND

SHERATON Securities, the property developer, incurred interim pre-tax losses of £56.6 million for the half year to end-September, just six months after a £50 million rescue refinancing. In the comparable period of 1989, the company made a pre-tax profit of £11.8 million.

Sheraton has been hurt badly by a slump in the value of its development properties. After making provisions of £61 million at the time of last summer's rescue, the company has had to make further provisions of £49.1 million.

The size of the losses means the company has negative shareholders' funds of £24 million, putting it in breach of covenants agreed with its bankers at the time of the refinancing. Sheraton had positive shareholders' funds of £15 million after the rescue in August.

Because of the big fall in net assets, the company is required by the Companies Act to hold an extraordinary meeting. This will be held on March 15.

The company is holding talks with its bankers to secure what it described as a "stable long-term financial base" for the company.

Sheraton's shares, having opened at 3.75p, fell to 1.75p, with more than 10 million changing hands. There is no interim dividend (2p).

Trading in Sheraton shares resumed in August after a four-month suspension. Their resumption was facilitated by a £25 million rights issue that was underwritten by SG Warburg and by £25 million of new bank finance.

However, the company had on and off balance sheet debts of £356 million.

Shareholders had hoped the rescue would be a turning point. Pre-tax losses of £44.6 million for the year to March, after property provisions of £61.1 million, suggested the company and its adviser were taking account of the slump in the property market.

That was clearly not so. The results were accompanied by a statement from Richard Cox-Johnsen, the chairman, that "the property market has deteriorated and values of commercial properties have declined further".

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES

Atlantis Resources	37
Aberforth Smlr (100p)	100
Brabant Res (155p)	134
CMW Group (30p)	25
Castle Cairn (50p)	30
EFM Java Tst (50p)	37
Eidos (100p)	58
Faber Prest (175p)	140
Foreign & Col	42 +1
Invergordon (135p)	155 +4
Levercrest (108p)	88
MMEC	8½
MMI (20p)	19
Malaysia Capital	26⅝
Midland Radio	95 +1
Paramount (10p)	9½
Pelican Gp (50p)	25
Proteus Intl (84p)	101 −2
Seton Healthcare	156
St James Place (130p)	86 +2
Smaller IT	60
Stand Platform (225p)	180
Tr Euro Gwth (100p)	90 +1
Trio Inv Tst	44
Utd Energy	1¼
Utd Uniform	88
Unichem (100p)	131 +2
Wig Tpe App	209 +10

● *See main prices page for Electricity shares*

RIGHTS ISSUES

Tesco N/P	44 +3

(Issue price in brackets).

FT-SE 100 VOLUMES

	Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000
Abbey Nat	3,511	Cadbury	2,888	L&G	898	Royal Bnk	848
Allo-Lyons	2,739	CU	705	Lloyds	5,607	Royal Ins	2,136
Anglian	1,630	Courtaulds	377	Lonrho	3,910	Sainsbury	2,376
ASDA	2,736	Dalgety	141	Lucas	4,083	Scot & N	827
AB Foods	171	Enterprise	1,107	M&S	5,337	Sears	10,781
Argyll	2,754	Eurotunnel	93	Maxwell Cm	79	Severn Trnt	1,297
BAA	2,847	Fisons	5,061	MEPC	1,729	Shell	1,888
BET	3,034	Gen Acc	610	Midland	2,491	Smith & N	3,918
BTR	5,158	GEC	9,566	Nat West	3,424	SK Beech	3,997
BAT	2,249	Glaxo	1,157	N W Water	1,431	Sun Allnce	622
Barclays	1,980	Grand Met	4,295	P&O	3,240	Tarmac	13,031
Bass	508	GUS 'A'	333	Pearson	233	Tate Lyle	1,982
BICC	1,374	GRE	3,966	Pilkington	2,829	TSB	2,773
Bk Scotlnd	629	GKN	2,031	Prudential	4,830	Tesco	5,401
Blue Circle	1,644	Guinness	1,024	Racal	6,265	Thames Wtr	685
BOC	3,041	Hamm 'A'	234	Rk Hovis	9,873	Thorn EMI	1,247
Boots	1,794	Hanson	8,913	Rank	932	Trafalgar	4,817
Br Aero	1,811	H & C	2,048	R&C	341	THF	4,822
Br Airways	3,033	Hawker	1,632	Redland	1,375	Ultramar	374
Br Gas	14,000	Hillsdown	1,914	Reed	498	Unilever	2,936
Br Petrol	7,644	ICI	1,117	Reuters	1,085	United Bis	1,590
Br Steel	11,539	Kingfisher	924	RMC Gp	650	Wellcome	521
Br Telecm	5,111	Lasmo	577	RTZ	1,721	Whitbrd	1,849
Burmah Cst	234	Ladbroke	8,149	R-Royce	7,171	Wgn Teape	2,842
C&W	1,936	Land Sec	1,873	Rothmn 'B'	146	Willis Cor	1,119

Interim advance at News Corp

By OUR CITY STAFF

HALF-YEAR pre-tax profits of The News Corporation rose 36.3 per cent to Aus$250 million (£99 million), because of a sharp recovery in the second quarter, an exceptional performance from the group's American film interests and the inclusion of the Harper-Collins worldwide book publishing business.

Sky Television, the group's British satellite broadcasting system, made slightly increased operating losses of £45.2 million in the four months to November 3, when it was merged into BSkyB. Results of BSkyB, in which News Corp has a 48 per cent minority interest but which is subject to a complex profit-sharing agreement, are not consolidated in group results.

Turnover of the international media group, which owns *The Times*, rose by 40 per cent to Aus$5.72 billion in the six months to end-December, with turnover of the American interests up 49 per cent to Aus$3.31 billion.

Trading profit rose by a quarter to Aus$792 million. This included Aus$571 million (up 70 per cent) from America, where Twentieth Century Fox scored a series of successes with film releases, including *Home Alone*.

Profits in Britain halved, mainly owing to the effect of the recession on advertising for the group's national newspapers. Results of *The Sun* and *News of the World*, which draw most of their revenue from sales, were only marginally lower but there was a greater impact on *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*, which rely more on advertising revenue. Vigorous action has been taken to cut costs.

Economic conditions also affected profits in Australia and the Pacific basin, which dropped by 18 per cent.

Interest charges, prior to the recent refinancing, increased from Aus$441 million to Aus$588 million. This was partly offset by profits of Aus$41.3 million (Aus$13.2 million) from foreign-exchange trading. By the end of last year, however, the group had closed all its foreign-exchange positions and this will no longer be treated as a profit centre.

Earnings per share rose 31 per cent to Aus$0.64 but the interim dividend will not be set until an extraordinary general meeting votes on proposals to allow dividends to be paid in shares.

Operating profits of News International, the British and European subsidiary, fell from £42.3 million to £5.9 million, reflecting Sky losses and lower newspaper profits. News International's pre-tax loss for the six months rose from £100 million to £168 million, after exceptional costs of £53.5 million, mainly relating to internal group transactions, and interest charges of £121 million.

●The trade department has admonished News Corp for failing to disclose within two days, as required under company law, the sale of 11 million shares in Reuters last autumn against redemptions of preference shares. The department said it was concerned that company law had been breached but had received assurances from News Corp that steps had been taken to prevent a repetition.

WDC ceases trading

Woodhouse Drake and Carey, the 200-year-old City commodity firm, has been declared in default and has ceased trading, the London Clearing House said. LCH said it is taking steps to achieve an orderly winding down of WDC's positions.

All positions held by WDC for customers are being transferred to other LCH members. LCH said it is "totally satisfied" with the arrangements.

Details of the volume of business involved are expected to be announced today.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Car exports up 83% in sixth monthly rise

A HEFTY rise in exports helped car production in Britain rise for the sixth successive month during January despite further falls in domestic sales. Production for export, at 52,774, was 83.3 per cent up on the same month last year, according to the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders.

Overall, the number of new cars produced rose to 113,950, an increase of 8.3 per cent. Commercial vehicle output fell 24.2 per cent to 18,248 vehicles despite a 27.7 per cent rise in exports to 8,757 units.

● More than 1,000 workers at the Leyland DAF van plant in Birmingham will return to five-day working today. They have been on a four-day week since the start of the year.

BAA to miss estimate

BAA, the airports operator, will not achieve the 3.5 per cent growth in passenger traffic estimated for the current year by Sir Norman Payne, the chairman, at the time of the interim results in November. The warning came with the announcement of a £150 million Eurosterling bond issue, the company's first sterling capital markets issue since privatisation in 1987.

Associated Nursing falls

PRE-TAX profits at Associated Nursing Services, the USM-quoted nursing homes operator, dived from £1.78 million to £631,000 in the 28 weeks to October 13 after an exceptional loss of £438,000 and a jump in interest costs. Group turnover climbed to £9.35 million (£2.76 million). Earnings per share plunge to 11.6p (32.1p). The interim dividend is maintained at 1p.

Norsk Hydro up 8%

HIGHER oil prices because of the Gulf troubles boosted profits last year at Norsk Hydro, Norway's largest industrial conglomerate, which has interests ranging from oil to fertilizers, agriculture, light metals and petrochemicals. Net income rose 8 per cent to Nkr2.9 billion (£256 million). Earnings per share climbed to Nkr14.1 (Nkr13.1) and the dividend goes up to Nkr4.25 (Nkr4).

The results benefited from a strong fourth quarter, which saw net income advance 42 per cent to Nkr1 billion (Nkr578 million). Operating income from the oil and gas division rose to Nkr3.31 billion (Nkr2.44 billion).

Alan Paul buys chain

ALAN Paul, the USM hairdressing and beauty products group, claims to be Europe's largest hairdressing group after the purchase of the Raymond hairdressing chain for £430,000. Alan Paul is buying the chain from Grant Thornton, the receivers. Raymond, which was established in the Fifties, operates 13 salons, mainly in the Midlands, and employs 250 staff.

Simons picked by Storehouse

STOREHOUSE has appointed David Simons as its new group finance director following the departure of Bob Mackenzie last October after only a year in the job. Mr Simons, aged 43, is finance director of House of Fraser and will join Storehouse in early May. Storehouse said Mr Mackenzie had not received, and would not receive, any compensation for loss of office.

Photo-Me at £8.5m

PHOTO-ME International, the world's largest photographic booth manufacturer and operator, suffered a slip in pre-tax profits from £8.83 million to £8.54 million in the six months to end-October, after a foreign exchange loss.

Turnover climbed 4 per cent from £52.1 million to £54.3 million, with about two-thirds of the group's earnings coming from overseas. Operating profits rose by 12 per cent from £12 million to £13.5 million, but there was an £875,000 foreign exchange loss, mainly on the dollar, against an £835,000 gain last time. Earnings per share slip from 8.57p to 7.81p. The interim dividend is held at 1.2p. The shares lost 10p to 230p.

WORLD MARKET INDICES

Index	Value	Daily ch'ge (£)	Yearly ch'ge (£)	Daily ch'ge (lc)*	Yearly ch'ge (lc)*	Daily ch'ge (US$)	Yearly ch'ge (US$)
The World	627.2	0.8	9.3	0.7	10.0	0.4	12.4
(free)	119.9	0.8	9.3	0.6	9.9	0.4	12.3
EAFE	1076.0	1.0	9.7	0.8	8.7	0.5	12.8
(free)	110.6	1.0	9.7	0.7	8.5	0.5	12.7
Europe	639.9	0.9	7.5	0.8	7.7	0.5	10.5
(free)	138.3	1.0	7.4	0.6	7.3	0.5	10.4
Nth America	458.1	0.6	8.7	0.1	11.7	0.1	11.8
Nordic	1172.7	0.5	7.8	0.3	8.1	0.0	10.9
(free)	192.0	0.7	7.3	0.5	7.5	0.2	10.3
Pacific	2404.6	1.0	11.4	0.8	9.4	0.6	14.6
Far East	3489.7	1.1	11.6	0.8	9.5	0.6	14.8
Australia	245.9	−0.1	7.1	−0.6	8.0	−0.6	10.1
Austria	1350.2	1.9	3.2	1.8	3.8	1.4	6.1
Belgium	750.6	0.3	6.3	0.2	6.4	−0.2	9.3
Canada	446.8	0.5	5.1	0.1	7.5	0.0	8.0
Denmark	1158.5	1.1	7.4	1.0	7.6	0.7	10.4
Finland	64.2	0.6	−0.2	0.5	0.7	0.2	2.6
(free)	92.8	2.5	7.9	2.4	8.9	2.1	10.9
France	616.0	1.3	7.5	1.1	8.0	0.8	10.5
Germany	722.0	0.2	5.4	0.1	5.9	−0.3	8.4
Hong Kong	2123.1	0.5	10.4	0.0	13.3	0.0	13.5
Italy	272.0	2.3	6.6	2.3	6.9	1.8	9.6
Japan	3864.8	1.1	11.7	0.9	9.3	0.6	14.9
Netherlands	766.7	0.9	3.8	0.7	4.1	0.4	6.8
New Zealand	58.8	−2.5	14.3	−2.9	13.7	−3.0	17.5
Norway	1149.0	1.0	3.1	0.9	3.1	0.6	6.0
(free)	201.8	0.8	3.8	0.6	3.8	0.3	6.8
Sing/Malay	1562.9	1.7	7.8	1.4	8.9	1.2	10.8
Spain	190.3	1.9	15.9	1.7	14.1	1.5	19.2
Sweden	1268.8	0.0	11.5	−0.2	11.7	−0.4	14.6
(free)	181.0	0.0	9.1	−0.2	9.3	−0.4	12.1
Switzerland	784.5	0.5	11.2	0.3	12.1	0.0	14.4
(free)	118.4	0.4	10.2	0.3	11.0	0.0	13.3
UK	688.1	1.0	7.7	1.0	7.7	0.5	10.7
USA	416.0	0.6	9.0	0.1	12.1	0.1	12.1

(lc)* Local currency. Source: Morgan Stanley Capital International.

MAJOR INDICES

New York:
Dow Jones .... 2914.85 (+5.69)*
S&P Composite .... 368.71 (−0.31)*
Tokyo:
Nikkei Average .. 25356.37 (+216.90)
Hong Kong:
Hang Seng .... Closed
FT-SE Eurotrack .... 1013.02 (+5.92)
Amsterdam:
CBS Tendency .... 85.1 (+1.3)
Sydney: AO .... 1372.9 (−5.3)
Frankfurt: DAX .... 1486.52 (−2.89)
Brussels:
General .... 5252.18 (+10.77)

Paris: CAC .... 437.99 (+5.32)
Zurich: SKA Gen .... 510.3 (+1.9)

London:
FT.—A All-Share ..... 1103.60 (+14.44)
FT.— "500" .... 1213.77 (+16.62)
FT. Gold Mines .... 136.1 (same)
FT. Fixed interest .... 93.92 (+0.66)
FT. Govt Secs .... 85.74 (+0.45)
Bargains 34226
SEAQ Volume 712.6m
USM (Datastream) .... 115.81 (+1.12)
*Denotes latest trading price

NatWest
INTEREST RATES

NatWest announces the following interest rates, effective from 14th February 1991:

Savings

Customers not affected by CRT		Customers affected by CRT	
Gross interest per annum		Net interest per annum	Gross equivalent per annum to a basic rate taxpayer
	Crown Reserve 3 Months' notice Minimum Investment £2,000		
13.25%	£25,000 and above	10.375%	13.83%
13.00%	£10,000 - £24,999	10.125%	13.50%
12.75%	£2,000 - £9,999	9.625%	12.83%
	Special Reserve Instant Access Savings Minimum Balance £500		
11.50%	£25,000 and above	8.625%	11.50%
11.00%	£10,000-£24,999	8.375%	11.17%
10.75%	£2,000-£9,999	8.125%	10.83%
10.00%	£500-£1,999	7.625%	10.17%
	First Reserve Instant Access No Minimum Balance		
10.75%	£1,000 and above	8.125%	10.83%
10.00%	£500-£999	7.625%	10.17%
9.25%	£250-£499	7.125%	9.50%
9.00%	£100-£249	6.875%	9.17%
8.75%	£0-£99	6.625%	8.83%
9.50%	Monthly Income Account*†	7.375%	9.83%

*Monthly Income Account effective from 1st March 1991.
†Existing Account Holders only.

Current Accounts

	Account		
5.00%	Card Plus	3.50%	4.67%
5.00%	Current Plus	3.50%	4.67%
5.00%	Student Plus	3.50%	4.67%

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Ivor Herbert: The Mail on Sunday – Annual Awards

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Interest Rate Change

AIB Bank announces that with effect from close of business on 13th February 1991 its Base Rate was reduced from 14% to 13.5% p.a.

AIB
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Fudging the unemployment figures

COMMENT

The warnings from the City and elsewhere about yesterday's unemployment figures had been so dire that when they came, a rise in unemployment — seasonally adjusted — of 46,200 did not seem too bad. Unadjusted, so-called headline unemployment rose by well over 100,000, and seems set next month to burst through the psychologically important 2 million mark, last seen in Britain two years ago.

When that does come, almost certainly next month, the focus will be, as it was yesterday, on the unadjusted rate, with the adjusted figure lagging some way behind, still considerably below 2 million. Statisticians prefer the seasonally adjusted figure, arguing that it is a "clean" series, untainted by the vicissitudes of passing months, and that it provides the best guide to the overall unemployment trend.

So it does. But it is inevitable that business, and journalistic, attention will focus on whichever figure is the higher as the guide to unemployment they want to see — particularly if, as in yesterday's figures, the seasonal adjustment made is so large. Unadjusted, unemployment rose by 109,000 in the month to January 10. Adjusted, it rose by only 46,000 — considerably less than last month's seasonally adjusted increase, which was put then at 80,400, but which has since been revised downwards to 79,200.

As *Soap* used to say: confused? You should be. But it gets worse. Trying to determine *how* the "seasonal" adjustment is made is to put it at its mildest, venturing deep into the realms of the obscure. It recalls the old schoolroom Schleswig-Holstein question. Only three people understood this: one is dead, one is mad — and one works in the Department of Employment.

Despite suspicions about the sheer size of this month's "seasonal" adjustment, taking out 63,300 from the figures at a stroke, there is a widespread belief, perhaps even a hope, that the statisticians are getting their sums right. Probably, they are. But after the credibility battering the monthly unemployment figures took in the Eighties, with some 30 changes of counting method, for the government to explain fully and properly its process of "seasonal" adjustment might not be a bad idea.

BT troubles

British Telecom is proving more resilient to the recession so far than it might. Profits are moving nicely ahead despite the usual buoyant volume and revenue growth slowing to a trickle. That is only possible thanks to cost-cutting and good house-keeping aimed at giving it a lower base to combat further stiffening of competition that is bound to follow from the upcoming results of the government's review of its duopoly with Cable and Wireless subsidiary Mercury.

But will that be enough? BT shares are still suffering from the combination of jam today but fear of less tomorrow and especially in the years after. The trouble with the original proposals, which may not be greatly changed, is that they failed to come to grips with a growing conflict between the urge for more competition and the urge to impose regulations on existing monopoly positions.

BT understandably complains about being held back from offering new services to allow new foreign competitors to become established, since the gain to consumers is not obvious. The clearer conflict is over its pricing structure and over threatened new price controls on international calls, which are highly profitable though not unduly expensive on international comparisons.

If BT is allowed to offer wider varieties of price packages, particularly featuring higher rental and lower call charges, it may become a more formidable competitor to those with less infrastructure who can undercut it on calls. If it is not allowed to make economic charges, however, BT is forced to become an unfair competitor, stifling potential competition in the basic network.

Banking woes

The rest of the world may be worried over the parlous state of the American banking system, but most senior American bankers seem remarkably relaxed about the future. Chase Manhattan's chairman, Thomas G Labreque, was even talking of a fundamental long-term renewal. He pointed to the measures taken recently to streamline operations, cut costs and provision against expected heavy losses.

The cornerstone of his argument was the belief that Congress and the American public were coming to accept that a fragmented financial structure would not foster investment and growth. Clearly much is expected of the moves towards reform which would allow banking and financial services conglomerates to develop.

But customers regulators should ask whether or not the present problems are structural or, as seems more likely, caused through poor management decisions.

The disastrous enthusiasm for Third World lending, the explosion of leveraged transactions and explosion of ill-judged credit growth are at the heart of the current malaise. It is time for bankers to go back to basics, not trigger off another round of corporate concentration in the hope that things will be better this time.

Sealing the fates of ITV's minnows

THIS morning the 16 independent television companies and those that wish to displace them in the approaching ITV franchise auction will arrive at the Knightsbridge, central London, offices of the Independent Television Commission.

They are eager to obtain the hundreds of pages of detailed rules, regulations and requirements aimed at guiding them through the complex contest for the coveted licences.

Formally invited today to apply for the new Channel 3 licences, the incumbents and newcomers have until May 15 to send in sealed bids.

The bid envelopes will be opened only after the applicants have passed the "quality threshold". Their detailed programme plans and schedules must be sufficient to convince the ITC that they can live up to existing standards.

George Russell, the ITC chairman, in whose hands rests the outcome of the auction, said yesterday the six small ITV franchises — Ulster, Border, Grampian, Tyne Tees, TSW and Channel — will be the most vulnerable.

"We're not looking for any sacrificial lamb, but it's a fact that it will be easier for a newcomer to match incumbents supplying a small percentage of programmes to the network than those supplying a major proportion. But any company bidding for a small regional company will have to show they can cope with the regional programming requirement," he said. At least 80 per cent of regional programming must be made within the region, the guidelines say.

Although the smaller companies are by far the most vulnerable, it is not out of the question that any of the leaders — Thames, LWT, Granada, Central or Yorkshire — could be beaten. Mr Russell said it was unlikely all 16 would retain their franchises; he would be "surprised but not embarrassed" if the licencees are unchanged. "The real change will happen once the moratorium on takeovers is lifted in 1994," he said.

No sacrifices: George Russell, chairman of the ITC

Until then, the smaller companies will be protected from rival bids by their ITV neighbours. Kenneth Baker, the home secretary, last month changed the ownership rules to prevent television companies from bidding for two new Channel 3 licences in adjacent regional areas.

But in January 1994, Grampian could be taken over by Scottish. Tyne Tees, which had expected Yorkshire to put in a rival bid for it, now has to contend with a likely bid by Granada, with whom it shares no border. The ITC guidelines, issued in advance to the Press yesterday, require any company bidding for more licences than it can hold under the cross-ownership restrictions to rank their preferred regions in order of preference.

This will mean Virgin and Carlton Communications, which are considering multiple bids for a number of regions each — TVS, Thames, LWT, Central and Anglia considered to be the most likely targets — will have to gamble on imponderables.

What if Virgin's first choice is Thames and it fails to make the highest bid, but its fifth and least preferred choice is TVS and its bid is the highest?

Smaller companies will only have to pay what they can afford to a central scheduler for a programme like *Coronation Street*, which costs just £72,000 to produce, but could bring in £200,000 an episode for Granada had the ITC succumbed to a truly commercialised network tariff system.

It means that the larger companies will earn less revenue from network programme sales, while the smaller companies will be able to buy networked programmes without running the risk of financial ruin.

The guidelines stipulate that the new Channel 3 licencees must collectively draw up and publish commercial terms upon which the network programme commissions would be negotiated.

All would contribute to the network budget, estimated at £500 million a year, but commissions will be in line with "ability to pay".

The ITC's networking guidelines, approved under the Broadcasting Act by the Office of Fair Trading, which must ensure the system is not "anti-competitive", will be good news for the independent production companies, which will be able to supply their programmes directly to an independent central scheduler, chosen collectively by the licencees.

MELINDA WITTSTOCK
Media Correspondent

Gulf instability hurts BP

TEMPUS

BP SHARES have fallen more than 8 per cent relative to the market since the Gulf war began and, judging by the company's cautious view of 1991, further downgradings are imminent.

A final dividend of 4.20p, up from 3.95p, was at the top end of expectations, but a total dividend of 16.05p, against 14.90p, barely keeps up with inflation. Oil prices are the main concern. While BP buys 60 per cent of its oil, it is also highly geared to the price of crude: each $1 per barrel rise adds 10 per cent to net profits.

Robert Horton, chairman, sees prices rising from the current $20 once the overhang of high stock levels is removed after the war. Others see prices falling further as Iraq and Kuwait come back on stream. Following a sharp fall in oil prices on the outbreak of war BP faces certain stock losses in the first quarter.

Higher feedstock costs and declining demand had a sharp impact on chemicals and there is no sign of a quick recovery. Strong refining margins in Europe offset disappointing margins in the United States while marketing recovered from sharp third-quarter losses. But both remain finely balanced.

Replacement-cost profits could fall again from £1.2 billion to £1.1 billion in the current year. On a historic cost basis, profits of £930 million against £1.676 billion seem realistic, assumming a $21 barrel, with earnings of 17p a share, down from 31.3p. At 309p the shares trade on a prospective multiple of 18, with a yield of 7.3 per cent, and are a weak hold.

Crest Nicholson

THIS week's base rate cut brought little cheer to Crest Nicholson, the housebuilding, property development and construction group, which reported a fall in pre-tax profits from £37.1 million to £8.1 million for the year to end October.

Roger Lewis, chief executive, is very much of the "too little, too late" school and sees scant prospects for restored customer confidence until base rates fall to 12 per cent and the Gulf war ends.

Meantime, the company is shoring up its balance sheet by maintaining house sale volumes, even at the expense of margins, and building a bank of low cost land. In the short term, though, that means more pressure on the P & L.

The dividend is maintained at 7.65p, though Crest is digging deep into reserves to pay for it. But the company has warned that if, as expected, trading does not improve, the dividend for the current year will have to be cut. Given that, in its words, the half year "will inevitably show a loss", lower full year profits must be on the cards.

The City is expecting about £5 million this year, putting the shares on an almost meaningless multiple of 64, though analysts are more interested in the prospects for the recovery year, 1992. If the residential and commercial property markets do start moving again, Crest may make £12 million-£15 million in 1992 year, valuing the shares at a more respectable p/e of about 10. At best, a long term hold.

BOC

THE BOC Group, once so adept at currency hedging that volatile exchange movements used to pass it by, was hit by a £10 million exchange negative in the three months ended December, which helped cut reported pre-tax profits from £81.5 million to £71.4 million.

BOC also suffered from a higher interest charge which helped dent pre-tax profits, while, at the net level, earnings were additionally hurt by a higher than expected tax charge and turned out at 9.29p (11.31p) a share.

But for exchange rate movements — most noticeable in the vacuum and distribution division, where operating profits fell from £6.7 million to £3.8 million — BOC would have painted a brighter picture for its gases and health care interests.

And, but for the assurance, already given under its dividend alert policy, that this year's dividend will total 20.4p a share, BOC's shares might have performed badly yesterday.

They actually rose 3p to 539p, though year-end pre-tax profit estimates have been trimmed yet again.

The market now looks for £330 million pre-tax against earlier thoughts of £348 million (and an actual £354.3 million last year) and 1992 forecasts have been lowered from £371 million to £360 million. The more important currencies that BOC has to concern itself about remain the Australian and American dollars and the yen.

But currency concerns have now overtaken the trading and economic considerations when assessing BOC's shares and, against that background, the shares, on 12 times' prospective earnings, backed by a 5 per cent yield, are not especially appealing.

European help for airlines considered

EUROPEAN competition rules are set to be waived to allow a package of emergency measures to help airlines weather the sharp downturn in passengers triggered by the Gulf war.

The measures, to be considered by the European Commission executive next Wednesday, will allow airlines to co-operate in withdrawal of flights to improve load factors. They will last initially for three months.

Karel Van Miert, the transport commissioner, told reporters the package did not constitute "a blank cheque" for the airlines. European airlines have seen passenger figures drop by around 30 per cent over fears of terrorism. Mr Van Miert said that when business returned to normal, the commissions's liberalisation drive would continue.

He said if the package was accepted, the commission would be prepared to approve cuts in services by the airlines to share capacity. The commission would also protect airlines from having their take off and landing slots at airports redistributed.

Approval of any fare rises because of the crisis would be speeded up, and government aid to cover spiralling insurance and air safety costs would be acceptable, but the commission would step in if it judged the aid excessive or unrelated to the war. Other cost-cutting measures would probably include a 9 per cent ceiling on value-added tax on air services.

Mr Van Miert said the concessions would not necessarily work in the consumer's interests.

☐ America is asking the world trade body, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, to decide whether German government subsidies to Airbus Industrie, the aircraft manufacturing group, breach its code, Carla Hills, the American trade representative, said yesterday.

ROSS TIEMAN
Industrial Correspondent

NatWest
Business Accounts
INTEREST RATES

NatWest announces the following interest rates, effective from 14th February 1991:

Business Reserve Account

Customers not affected by CRT		Customers affected by CRT	
Gross Interest per annum	Balance	Net Interest per annum	Gross equivalent per annum to a basic rate taxpayer
	Instant Access – Minimum deposit/ withdrawal £100		
12.125%	£250,000 – £1,000,000	9.00%	12.00%
12.00%	£100,000 – £249,999	8.875%	11.83%
11.75%	£25,000 – £99,999	8.75%	11.67%
11.125%	£2,000 – £24,999	8.25%	11.00%
8.50%	£500 – £1,999	6.375%	8.50%

Capital Reserve Account

Customers not affected by CRT		Customers affected by CRT	
Gross Interest per annum	Balance	Net Interest per annum	Gross equivalent per annum to a basic rate taxpayer
	14 days notice of withdrawal required – No minimum deposit/ withdrawal		
12.875%	£250,000 and above	9.625%	12.83%
12.75%	£100,000 – £249,999	9.50%	12.67%
12.625%	£25,000 – £99,999	9.375%	12.50%
12.00%	£2,000 – £24,999	8.875%	11.83%

National Westminster Bank PLC
41 Lothbury London EC2P 2BP

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Burrowing back to work

QUENTIN Burrows, former head of options at NatWest Stockbrokers, has resurfaced in the Square Mile after a three-month break. He has teamed up with Oliver Gillie, a former international metals trader, and Patrick Thompson, former marketing manager at the London Traded Options Market, to launch a new broking firm aimed specifically at private clients. To be known as Derivative Securities, the firm has just been granted its Stock Exchange membership and is now ready to do business, despite the gloom of the recession. "It's good that someone is starting at such a gloomy time," says Gillie, the chairman, who studied mathematics at Trinity College, Cambridge, before going on to buy tin and nickel on behalf of a number of companies, including RTZ. Meanwhile Burrows, who left NatWest last October, is well placed to keep a wary eye on developments in the Gulf. He spent several years as an oilman in the Middle East before joining NatWest.

Loving lawyers

BANKERS and stockbrokers, if the truth be known, are not nearly as romantic as some hot-blooded types in the Square Mile would like to think. To their eternal shame, the honour of being the most romantic on St Valentine's Day goes to their age-old rivals, the City's legion of solicitors, who will, it seems, leap at the chance to demonstrate their ardour. Charles Tyrwhitt Shirts, the shirtmaker, set out to find the most romantic firm in the City and reveals that the title belongs not to the likes of Cazenove but to the law firm Cameron Markby Hewitt. Tyrwhitt, which offered to send a dozen red roses to anyone who bought three of its shirts, found a total lack of interest from the banking sector. The City gents at Lehman Brothers and UBS Phillips & Drew failed to send a single rose between them. "The lawyers went absolutely mad," says a spokesman, adding that most of the roses were sent by solicitors to solicitors, with the greatest number of recipients being at Allen & Overy. One budding male lawyer at Ashurst Morris Crisp even sent a dozen roses to himself but Tyrwhitt refused to disclose his name. Sources within the firm, however, reveal that this unidentified lawyer took this seemingly strange course of action so that he could present the bouquet of roses personally . . . to his mistress and not his wife.

Sporting chance

AFTER scouting the market for the best part of a year to find someone to run its fund management arm, Hill Samuel has finally turned to its own ranks. Philip Beaven, an employee since 1970, has just been made managing director of Hill Samuel Investment Management, the British institutional arm of TSB Group. "I am not planning a dramatic shake-up," says Beaven, aged 44, who until recently was as keen on sport as on the world of business. After tackling the 1966 university challenge while at Queen's College, Oxford, he went on to play rugby for Streatham & Croydon before finally hanging up his boots four years ago. He now claims that learning to fly an aircraft is as much of an interest as investment, although prospects for the former do not look too good. "I've been trying to get my private pilot's licence for years, but never seem to have both money and time at the same moment," he says.

Apple-ation

A SPELL in the insolvency department of an accountant may be just the ticket for setting up a new business, particularly in these times. It has certainly done no harm for Lawrence Mallinson, who helped launch The New Covent Garden Soup Company in 1988. Now, he is promoting James White Applejuice, which supplies shops and supermarkets with filtered apple juice. "The problem with the juice is that it looks terrible," says Mallinson, aged 33, who read history and law at Cambridge before joining Peat Marwick McLintock in 1977. "But filtered, it looks like white wine, and that's how we package it."

Raven-on

RUMOURS circulating in the Square Mile that Stephen Raven, former chairman of Garban, the second biggest inter-dealer broker, had left the firm after a bust-up, are, he tells me, entirely untrue. "I actually stood down as chairman in December but I am still a non-executive director and I still represent Garban on the Stock Exchange Council," he says. Raven, who celebrates his 53rd birthday next Tuesday, says he stood down because he wanted to devote more time to his Stock Exchange work — he is already deputy chairman of the membership committee, the quality of markets committee and the trading markets board.

CAROL LEONARD

Statement on profits hurts share price at Eurocopy

By Matthew Bond

SHARES in Eurocopy, the photocopier and fax machine supplier, lost more than a third of their value after the company gave warning of substantially lower profits in the current year.

In December, the company said press reports criticising certain sales practices were likely to damage trading. Cyril Gay, the chairman, said the reports remain the main cause of the profits setback, but admitted that the recession had prompted businesses to defer purchases of equipment.

In the year to end-September, the company made pretax profits of £11.3 million and had been expected to make about £14 million in the current year. After the latest warning, however, Panmure Gordon, the company's broker, cut its current year forecast to £7.5 million. The shares fell 58p to 96p.

In his statement, Mr Gay said sales at Purdie & Kirkpatrick, the group's Scottish subsidiary, had been poor since October. This deterioration had since spread to its Equipu subsidiary in south-western England.

The press criticism of Eurocopy centred on Purdie & Kirkpatrick and followed a campaign conducted by Nigel Griffiths, the Labour MP for Edinburgh South and a shadow spokesman on consumer affairs.

Last December, Mr Griffiths handed over a dossier of complaints to the trade department.

These included allegations that Purdie & Kirkpatrick salesmen pressured customers into signing leases that they did not fully understand.

Purdie & Kirkpatrick was bought with Equipu for £16 million from Sketchley, the dry cleaner, in 1989. About 18 months after buying the company, Eurocopy announced that it had dismissed seven salesmen and a director from Purdie & Kirkpatrick.

Eurocopy also started legal action against Sketchley, seeking £3 million compensation for the alleged malpractice of Purdie & Kirkpatrick salesmen.

At the time of last December's results the company allocated £286,000 to cover the cost of releasing customers from some of the Purdie & Kirkpatrick contracts.

P&P business move lifts profits 18.5%

By Philip Pangalos

SHARES in P&P, the computer distribution and services group chaired by Professor Roland Smith, jumped 16p to 78p after the company bucked the sector's trend with an 18.5 per cent advance in full year profits.

Pre-tax profits climbed to £13.1 million (£11.1 million) in the year to end-November, helped by a further shift towards higher margin computer services. Turnover, boosted by acquisitions, grew 33 per cent to £223.8 million.

Operating profits surged 34 per cent to £15.5 million, benefiting from increased margins, up from 18.1 per cent to 19.4 per cent, and the move towards the added value computer service area, where margins can be as high as 85 per cent.

Earnings per share slipped to 18.9p (21.2p), with fully diluted earnings down to 18.5p (20p), affected by last July's £27 million rights issue and a higher tax charge. The final dividend is raised to 3p (2 5p), making 4.25p (3.6p) for the year.

LVMH income rises by 15%

LVMH Moët Hennessy-Louis Vuitton, the French drinks and luxury goods group, said net income had risen by 15 per cent last year. The company gave no exact figure but the announcement suggests that net profits were more than Fr3.6 billion in the 1990 financial year compared with Fr3.19 billion in 1989, including minority interests.

The fall in currency values in the company's main export markets, America, Japan and Britain, led to a squeeze on earnings growth, which otherwise would have been 40 per cent according to a spokesman. Sales were Fr19.8 billion, marginally up on 1989, but were depressed by the strength of the franc.

The company, which has a 24 per cent cross shareholding with Guinness, the British drinks company, said it was able to compensate the downturn in America with much increased sales in the Far East, which now accounts for more than 35 per cent of LVMH's turnover. Sales in Japan were up by 34 per cent. Business in Europe and America was further weakened by the outbreak of the Gulf hostilities and the economic downturn.

Radio trading warning

Further evidence of the downturn in the radio sector has come from Midlands Radio, one of the largest independent broadcasters in the country, which has warned shareholders of a deterioration in the trading climate since the New Year.

In December, John Parkinson, the chairman, said trading in the first two months of the company's financial year had been "encouraging." Yesterday he told the annual meeting that January had proved a particularly tough month and present indications were of no improvement in the short term.

Foseco offer

Burmah Castrol, which last year won a £259 million cash offer for the ordinary shares of Foseco, the chemicals company, has launched £933,000 offer for the preference shares. Burmah is offering 93.33p in cash for each preference and a dividend while the offer is open.

Squeeze upsets Usher

TIM BISHOP

Keeping going: Mr Norland, with model Jenny and Anne Brah, managing director

FRANK Usher, the fashion group quoted on the Unlisted Securities Market, is feeling the effects of the downturn on the high street. The group lost £20,000 when Lewis's, the department store chain, went into receivership last month (Gillian Bowditch writes).

Christopher Norland, the chairman, said: "If a large department store group goes under, we would be badly affected, but we have to keep supplying our customers. Despite careful controls, the group has not been immune to bad debts. The retailers are under pressure and suppliers are one of the areas they are squeezing."

He said he was pleased that sales had been holding up in difficult market conditions and added that the group was looking at ways of increasing efficiency and reducing costs.

Pre-tax profits for the six months to end-November fell to £505,000 (£775,000) on sales of £8.19 million (£7.69 million). Earnings per share fell to 4.7p (6.6p). The dividend has been cut from 2p to 1.5p. Mr Norland said that although the group could have maintained the interim dividend, it would have sent the wrong signal to the market.

The group is presenting its autumn/winter collection in Germany and Birmingham this week. Sales in the second half are likely to be down on last year.

Mr Norland said: "Retailers have taken a bashing and that will show in the level of orders. They have been destocking."

The shares fell 2p to 64p.

NSM warns of profits fall

By Martin Barrow

NSM, the coal mining and building supplies group formerly known as Burnett and Hallamshire, has given a warning that it faces a second-half loss.

Profits for the full year to end-March are likely to be "significantly lower" than in the previous 12 months.

The shares collapsed 11p to a new low of 21p as Don Carr, chairman and chief executive, said payment of a final dividend "remains under review."

The decline in the building sector was affecting trading and hindering the disposal of exhausted coal properties, he added. Borrowings were higher than expected, affecting interest charges.

Coal mining operations in the United States performed to expectations, but the translation of earnings into sterling will be affected by the weak dollar.

Forecasts for NSM were reduced by about £10 million after the company reported interim profits down a third to £7.2 million before tax. Analysts had been expecting profits of £19 million for the 12 months, down from £26.2 million in the previous year, but the statement implies profits of under £7 million.

Concern has focused on the company's high gearing of about 110 per cent, including hire-purchase agreements and leases.

Last October, Anglo United, the fuel distributor and mining group, placed a 20.62 per cent stake in NSM.

Toshiba denies plans to buy stake in Time

From Joanna Pitman in Tokyo

TOSHIBA Corporation yesterday denied reports that it is planning to purchase an equity stake in Time Warner Communications, the American entertainment and publishing concern, but refused to rule out such talks in the future.

The size of the investment, according to Japanese newspaper reports, is likely to be up to 20 per cent of the outstanding stock in one of its entertainment businesses, a purchase that would, according to Wall Street observers, cost several hundred million dollars.

If a deal is clinched, it would be the third investment in an American film company by a Japanese electronics company, following the Sony acquisition of Columbia Pictures in September 1989 and Matsushita Electric's purchase of MCA in November.

The transaction would strengthen Toshiba's audio-visual operations by the acquisition of rights to sell Time Warner Communications' music and film products. When Time merged with Warner Communications in 1989, the new company went into debt to the tune of $11 billion.

Since then executives have been looking for capital investment from a foreign partner. Canal Plus, the French entertainment concern, has also been in negotiations with Time Warner.

Toshiba is likely to tread cautiously to avoid the kind of criticism that flooded Sony following its purchase of CBS. The company has only just got over a different kind of American censure.

In 1988, US Congressmen gave their most primitive and media-conscious display of Japan-bashing when they publicly smashed Toshiba products with sledgehammers on Capitol Hill after a Toshiba subsidiary sold militarily sensitive technology to the Soviet Union in violation of export control rules.

Eastern Germany facing collapse

By Wolfgang Münchau, European Business Correspondent

INDUSTRIAL output in eastern Germany plummeted in December, heightening fears that the economy is facing a collapse by the summer.

Output fell by 10.5 per cent after a 3.5 per cent rise in November. The electronics sector was the worst affected, with production down 22 per cent.

The figures are not seasonally adjusted and, therefore, exaggerate the decline. However, they do confirm anecdotal evidence that companies are no longer able to compete with their western competitors.

Annual figures are not available, but output is estimated to have halved during the year.

The decline is likely to have accelerated sharply last month when the terms of trade with other countries in eastern Europe worsened significantly after the abolition of the convertible rouble, an artificial Comecon trading currency.

The Federal Statistics Office said the pan-German current account surplus stood at DM 71.9 billion last year, revised from DM75.5 billion. This compares with a west German current account surplus of DM104.1 billion in 1989.

The fall in the current account is forecast to continue in the current year while German economists predict only a small surplus, or even a deficit, next year as demand continues to suck in imports.

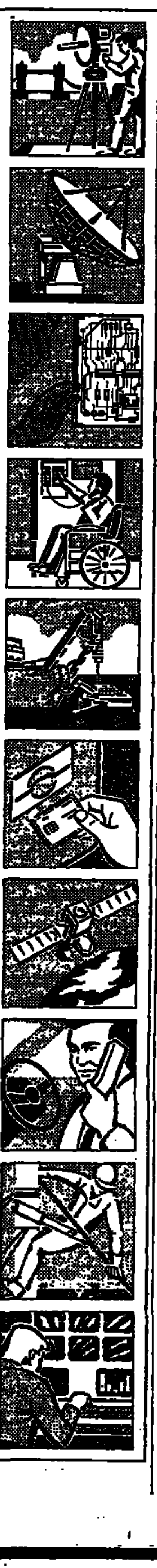
West German exports remained almost steady at DM643 billion last year while imports rose from DM507 billion to DM551 billion.

Year-on-year inflation in January was 2.8 per cent, revised from 2.9 per cent.

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
February 4	February 15	May 16	May 28

Call options were taken out on: 14/2/91 Appleyard, BTR Wts, Berisford Intl, Body Shop, Braithwaite, Burton, Cannon St Invst, Conroy Pet, Dares Estates, Ladbroke, P&P, C otient, Sale Tilney, Stakis, Standard Chartered Bank, Unitech.
Puts: Eurocopy, Ford Sellar Morris, Nat West Bank.
Puts & Calls: Hanson Wts, Tuskar Resources.



British Telecom

THIRD QUARTER RESULTS

	Third quarter 3 months ended 31 December (unaudited) 1990 £m	1989 £m	[illegible] ended 31 December (unaudited) 1990 £m	1989 £m
Turnover	3,278	3,083	9,753	[illegible]
Operating profit	880	827	2,652	2,360
Profit before tax	787	695	2,319	2,006
Profit after tax	523	464	1,542	1,331
Earnings per share	8.5p	7.6p	25.0p	21.7p

- Turnover up 6.3%
- Earnings per share up 12.3%
- Quality of service continues to improve

"Firm management control and continuing progress in network modernisation have allowed us to increase earnings for the benefit of shareholders and to improve the quality of our services for the benefit of customers. Volume growth has slowed substantially and can be expected to slow further. Prospects beyond the end of the financial year will be affected by the outcome of the Government's and Oftel's current review of telecommunications policy for the 1990s."

Iain Vallance
Chairman

If you have any queries as an investor, please call 0345 010505. For daily information on the British Telecom share price and matters of interest to shareholders generally, please call 0345 010707. You may telephone these numbers from anywhere in the UK for the price of a local call.

British Telecommunications plc, 81 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7AJ.

British TELECOM
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National Westminster Bank PLC

NatWest announces that
with effect from
Friday 22nd February 1991
its Gold Plus overdraft rates
will be amended as follows:
borrowing up to and including
£10,000 reduced from
17% to 16.5% p.a.
Unauthorised borrowing
remains unchanged at 22.5% p.a.

41 Lothbury London EC2P 2BP

Standard Chartered

Base Rate

On and after
February 13, 1991
Standard Chartered
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lending is being
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Standard Chartered Bank
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Tel 071 280 7500 - Telex 885951

BCC

Base Rate

BCC announces that
from 14th February 1991
its base rate is changed
from 14% to 13.5% p.a.

Bank of Credit and Commerce International
100 Leadenhall Street, London EC3A 3AD

NatWest
INTEREST RATES

NatWest announces the following interest rates, effective from 14th February 1991:

Savings

Gross * Interest # per annum	
6.00%	World Savers (for children)
4.50%	7 Day Notice Deposit Account
6.00%	On Line Account†
6.50%	Bonus Saver Account†
	Investment Account†
9.75%	3 Months' Notice
10.00%	6 Months' Notice

* Interest paid prior to 6 April 1991 is subject to CRT regulations.
# From 6 April, where appropriate, Basic Rate Tax will be deducted from interest credited or paid (which may be reclaimed by resident non-taxpayers). Subject to the required registration form, interest will be paid gross.
† Existing account holders only.

National Westminster Bank PLC
41 Lothbury London EC2P 2BP

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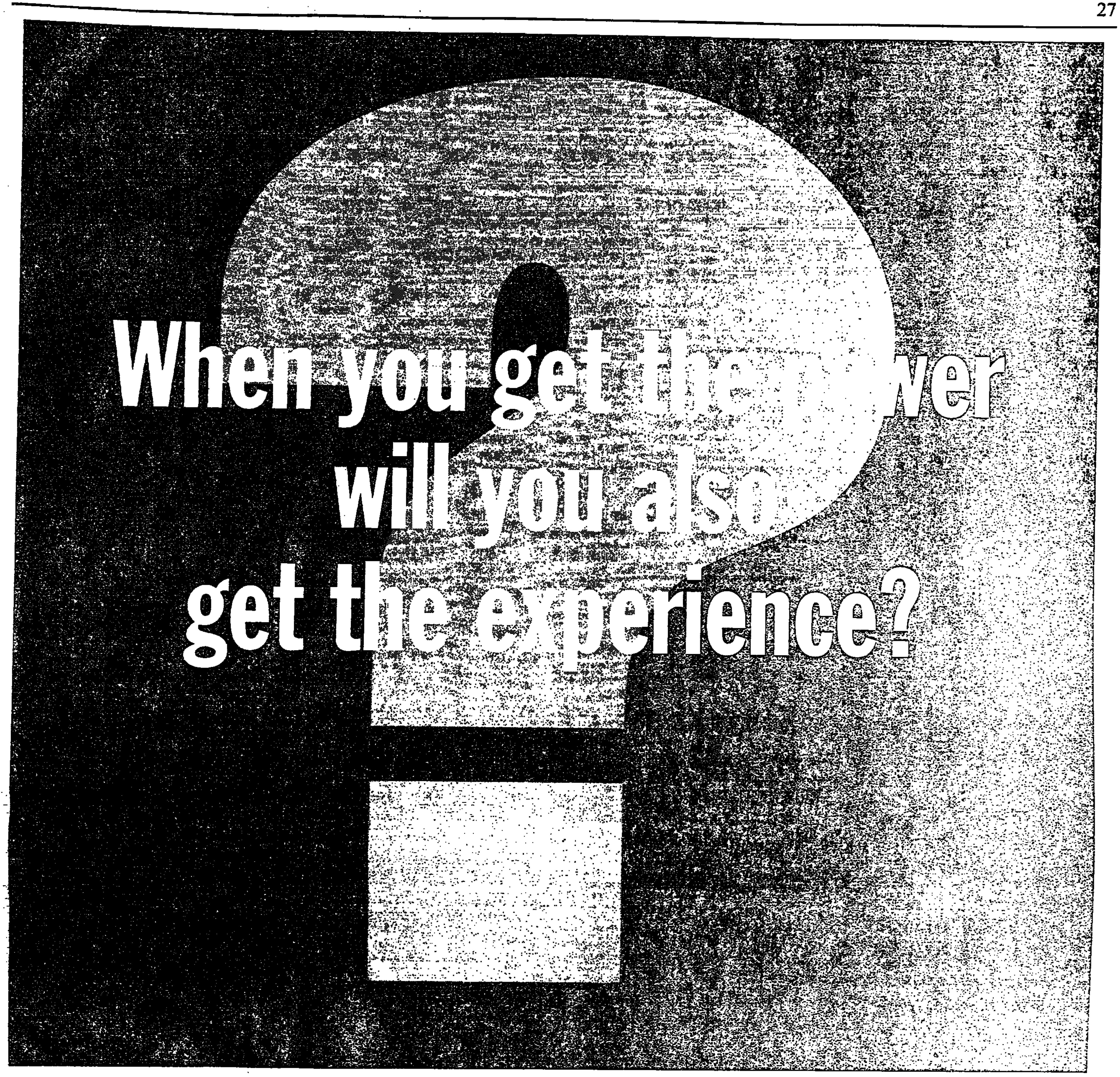

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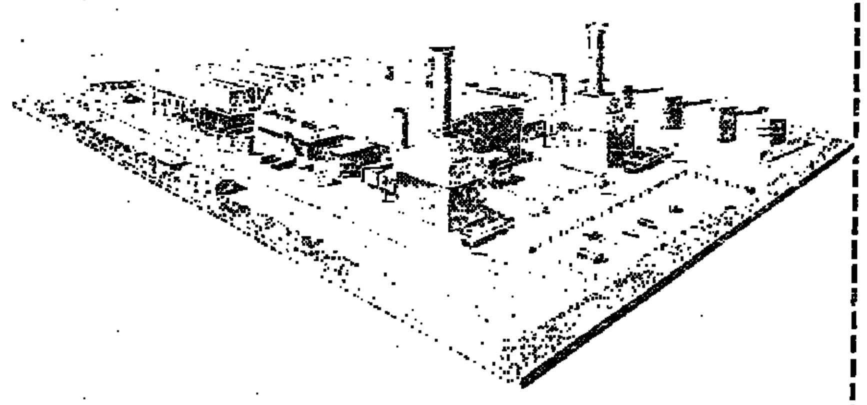

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T2

East Midlands Electricity

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WALL STREET

New York
STOCKS rose in the morning in a follow-through of Wednesday's strong close. Blue chips slipped on some profit-taking but the Dow Jones industrial average was still up 4 points at 2,913.16. Dealers said that while a consolidation may trim gains, the general direction remains up.

George Pirrone, a senior dealer at Dreyfus, said that investors were becoming nervous, which propels the market. *(Reuter)*

	Feb 14 midday	Feb 13 close		Feb 14 midday	Feb 13 close		Feb 14 midday	Feb 13 close
Abbott Lab	46	46¼	Enron	56⅝	55⅞	Oryx Enrgy	37⅛	37¾
Aetna Life	45½	46⅝	Entergy	24½	24¼	Pac Ent	42½	42
Ahmanson	17⅛	17⅜	Ethyl	27	27⅛	Pac Gas Elec	25⅝	25⅝
Air Prods	59⅝	60⅛	Exxon	54¾	54⅛	Pac Telesis	44	43¾
Albertsons	39¼	39⅝	Fed NMA	45⅝	46⅝	Paccar	43¾	43½
Alcan Al	22⅞	23	Fedrl Exprs	42¾	42	Pacificorp	22¾	22⅝
Alco Stand	35½	35⅝	Flt Norstar	15	14⅝	Pall	46½	46⅝
Allied Signal	31¼	31½	Fluor	45⅝	45½	Paramount	45	44½
Alumn CA	68¾	69¾	FMC	37⅞	37¼	Parker-Hanfn	27	26⅝
Am Brands	42⅞	42⅝	Ford Motor	30⅝	30⅛	Penney	51½	51¾
Am Cyanmd	58	57½	FPL	31¼	31½	Pennzoil	70⅛	70⅛
Am EPC	29⅞	29⅛	Fst Chicago	24¼	24⅛	Pepsico	31⅝	30⅛
Am General	36⅞	36⅞	Fst Intrsta	35¾	36⅛	Pfizer	102¼	100¾
Am Home	57⅝	57⅝	Fst Union	20¼	20⅛	Philps Pet	28¾	28½
Am Intl	67⅝	68¼	Gannett	40⅝	41⅝	Phildps Elec	19⅝	19⅝
Am Medical	4⅝	4⅝	Gen Cinema	22	22	Philp Morris	60¾	60⅝
Am Stores	67½	68¼	Gen Elec	68⅝	67⅝	Phelps Dodge	66⅝	67
Amax	25⅝	25⅛	Gen Mills	51¾	50⅛	Pitney Bow	53	50¾
Amer Hess	47	46⅝	Gen Motors	37⅝	36¾	Plcr Dome	15¼	15¼
Ameritech	68½	69	Gen RE	98⅝	98⅞	PNC Fncl	30½	30⅝
Amex	26⅝	26½	Gen Signal	44⅝	44⅝	Prhdle Estn	14⅛	14¼
Amoco	52⅝	52½	Genentech	27⅝	27⅛	Polaroid	26⅝	28¼
AMP	49¾	50¾	Genuine Prs	39¼	39⅝	PPG Inds	53⅝	53¼
AMR	58	58⅝	Georgia-Pac	47⅝	47⅛	Prctr Gmble	83¾	84⅛
Anheuser-Bh	47⅝	46⅜	Gillette	70	69½	Price	44½	45⅝
Apple Comp	58¼	60	Goodrich	40⅝	41	Primerica	30¼	29⅛
Archer-Dan	22⅝	22⅛	Goodyear	19⅝	19⅝	Pub Service	28¼	28
Arkla	18⅛	18⅛	Grace	29½	29⅛	Quaker Oats	53½	53¼
Armstrong	28⅞	29⅛	Greyhound	29⅛	29⅝	Ralston Pur	100⅝	100⅛
Asarco	29¼	29⅝	Gt Atlantic	51½	51⅞	Raychem	28⅛	27⅛
Ashland Oil	29⅝	30⅛	Gt Western	15½	16⅛	Raytheon	78¼	76⅝
AT&T	34¼	34⅛	GTE	30⅝	30⅝	Reebok	17¼	18
Atlan Richfld	132⅛	133¾	Hallibrtn	49¼	49⅝	Roadway	48½	48¾
Auto DP	63½	62⅞	Heinz	34⅛	35	Rockwell	28⅝	27⅝
Avery Intl	24⅝	24⅞	Hercules	40⅛	39⅞	Rohm Haas	44	44½
Avon Prod	39½	39⅞	Hershey Fd	40⅜	40⅝	Royal Dutch	80⅝	80¾
Baltimore	28⅛	28⅝	Hewlett Pkd	41¾	41⅛	Rubbermaid	44⅝	44⅝
Banc One	32⅛	33⅞	Hilton Htl	41⅝	40⅝	Rynlds Mtl	64	64⅞
Bankamerica	32⅝	33	Home Depot	48	48	Safeco	40	40⅛
Bard	19⅞	19⅝	Homestake	16½	17	Salomon	25⅝	25⅛
Barnett Bl	25⅛	25⅛	Honeywell	53¾	53¼	Sant Fe Pac	7⅝	7⅝
Bausch Lmb	77¼	76⅝	Houston Ind	37½	37⅝	Sara Lee	34⅛	34½
Baxter Intl	30¾	30⅛	Hsehld Ind	43½	42	Schecorp	38⅝	39
Bec Dckin	75⅝	75⅛	Humana	47⅞	48½	Schlumbgr	61¾	61⅝
Bell Atlan	51⅝	51⅛	IBM	135⅛	134¾	Schrg-Plgh	47⅝	46½
Bellsouth	53¼	54⅛	IF&F	84⅛	84⅛	Scott Papr	44⅞	44⅞
Bkr Hughes	26⅝	26⅛	Illinois TW	56⅝	56⅝	Seagram	94⅝	94
Black Decker	13⅞	13¾	Inco	31¾	31½	Sears Rbk	31½	30¾
Block	46⅞	46⅝	Ingsol-Rand	45	44⅞	Secrty Pac	26½	27⅛
Bnkrs Tst NY	46¾	47⅞	Inland Steel	24¾	24⅝	Shrwn-Wllms	41⅝	42⅝
Boeing	49	47¾	Intel	47	47½	Skyline	16⅝	16¾
Boise Casc	29⅝	29⅛	Intl Paper	63⅝	61½	Snap-on Tls	33	33¼
Borden	33⅛	34½	ITT	58⅝	58¾	Southern	28⅝	28⅝
Brst-Myer	75⅛	75	James River	28⅛	29½	St Paul	69	69
Browng-Fer	28½	28⅛	Johnsn Jhsn	79⅝	79	Stanley Wk	35½	35¾
Burl Nth	30⅛	30½	K Mart	35	35⅛	Stone Cntr	18⅝	18⅝
CAI	10⅝	10⅝	Kellogg	82⅞	82⅛	Sun Co	31⅝	31⅝
Campbell Sp	69⅝	68⅛	Kerr-McGee	45¾	45⅝	Suntst Bk	26⅝	26⅝
Cap Cities	464¾	495	Kimbly-Clrk	87¾	85⅝	Super Valu	26⅝	26⅝
Capital HC	46	47	Knght-Rddr	49¼	51⅛	SW Bell	56⅝	56⅝
Carolina	48¼	48⅝	Lilly	81½	79⅞	Syntex	70⅝	70⅝
Caterpiller	50⅝	50¼	Limited	24⅝	24¼	Sysco	38⅝	38⅝
CBS	168⅝	167⅞	Lin Brdcstg	64¼	63⅛	Tandem	14¾	13⅞
Central SW	45⅝	45⅞	Lincln Nat	50	50¾	Tandy	33¼	33⅝
Champion	29⅝	29⅛	Litton Ind	86⅛	85½	Tele-comm	15⅛	15⅝
Chase Man	15⅝	15⅞	Lockheed	38⅞	38⅝	Teledyne	22⅝	22⅛
Chem Bnkg	17⅝	17⅛	Louis-Pac	31⅛	30¾	Temple-In	37½	38⅝
Chevron	73½	73½	Manu Hano	25⅞	25⅜	Tenneco	51⅛	51¾
Chrysler	11⅛	11⅛	Marriott	16⅝	15⅛	Texaco	61⅝	61¼
Chubb	69⅛	70½	Marsh Mclen	78½	78⅛	Texas Inst	41⅝	41¾
Cigna	49⅝	50⅛	Martin Mar	51⅝	51⅝	Texas Util	38⅝	38¾
Cincorp	16½	17	Masco	22⅝	22¾	Textron	31¼	31⅛
Claibrne Liz	38	38½	May Dept	51⅝	51⅝	Time Wrnr	113¾	115½
Clorox	39½	39⅞	Maytag	13⅝	13	Times Mirr	31⅛	31¾
Cmwlth Edis	38⅛	38¾	MCA	n/a	n/a	Timken	28⅝	28⅝
CNA Fincl	84	87½	McDnl Doug	47⅝	48⅝	Torchmark	55⅝	55⅝
Coastal	32⅞	33⅛	McDonalds	32	32½	Toys R Us	27¾	27⅛
Coca-Cola	52⅛	51⅞	McGraw-Hill	57⅞	57⅝	Transam	36⅝	36⅝
Colgate-Pal	76¾	75⅝	MCI Com	27¼	27	Travelers	21	21⅝
Columb Gas	45⅝	45¾	Mead	30⅝	30⅝	Tribune	44⅝	44¾
Compaq	72⅞	72¼	Medtronic	102¾	100	TRW	41⅝	41¾
Conagra	41⅛	40⅞	Melville	49	49⅝	Tyco Lab	47⅝	47
Cons Edis	24⅞	24¼	Merck	99	98⅝	UAL	132½	133¾
Cons NG	43⅝	43¾	Merll Lynch	29⅝	29	Un Camp	42⅝	42⅝
Cons Rail	50¾	49⅛	MM&M	92⅝	93¾	Un Carbide	20¾	20⅝
Cooper Ind	46⅝	47	Mobil	61½	61¾	Un Pacific	77½	77⅝
Corning	55½	54⅝	Monsanto	59⅝	60	Unilever	92⅝	91⅝
CPC Intl	80¼	79½	Moore	25⅝	25⅝	Unisys	3¾	3⅝
Crown Cork	65½	65	Morgan	48¾	48⅝	Unocal	25⅝	26⅝
CSX	35¾	36	Motorola	60¾	60⅝	Upjohn	41⅝	41½
Dana	30¼	30⅝	Nat Medical	46⅝	45⅝	US West	40⅝	40⅝
Dayton-Hud	69⅝	69⅝	Nat Semi	6⅝	6¾	Usair Gp	19¾	20
Deere	53¾	54½	Nat Service	26⅝	27½	USF&G	11⅝	11⅝
Delta Air	71⅝	71½	Navistar	3⅝	3½	UST	41¾	41⅛
Deluxe	39⅝	39⅞	NCNB	32⅞	32¾	USX	30¾	31
Detroit Edi	29½	29⅝	NCR	92⅞	92⅞	Utd Tech	47⅝	47
Digital Eq	74½	73⅝	NED Bncp	38⅛	39⅝	Utd Telcm	26	26
Dillard	101¾	100¾	Newmnt Mn	37⅝	37⅝	VF	24⅝	24⅝
Disney	120	121⅝	Niagr Mhwk	14	14⅝	Wal-Mart	38¾	37
Dominion	47⅞	47⅞	NI-S	50½	50⅝	Walgreen	n/a	n/a
Donnelley	43⅝	44⅛	NL Indstrs	11⅝	10⅝	Waste Mgmt	42	41¾
Dover	42	42⅝	Nordstrom	31½	31½	Wells Fargo	74⅝	75½
Dow Chem	55½	55⅞	Norflk Sthn	44⅞	45	Westg Elec	30⅝	29⅝
Dow Jones	25⅝	26⅛	Norwest	24¾	24	Weyerhsr	25⅝	25
Dresser Ind	23½	23⅞	Nthn St Pwr	34¾	34⅝	Whirlpool	25⅝	25⅝
Du Pont	39¾	39⅞	Nthn Telcm	30⅝	30¼	Whitman	22⅛	22⅝
Duke Pwr	28⅝	28⅞	NY Times	23⅝	24½	Winn-Dixie	40⅝	41
Dun Bradst	47⅞	47⅞	Nynex	76¾	75⅝	Woolworth	34⅝	34½
East Kodak	46⅜	46⅝	Occid Petrl	19⅛	19⅝	Wrigley	58⅝	58⅝
Eaton	57¼	57⅝	Ohio Edi	18⅛	18⅝	Wrner-Lamb	74⅝	74¾
Emerson El	43⅛	44⅞	Oracle Sys	9⅛	9⅝	Xerox	53⅝	53¾

STOCK MARKET

M&S price falters as City fears it finds going tough

THE recession is continuing to bite in the high street and even the big players are finding the going tough with **Marks and Spencer's shares** falling 6p to 234p. Whispers in the Square Mile suggest that sales in January failed to live up to expectations, although M&S has refused to comment.

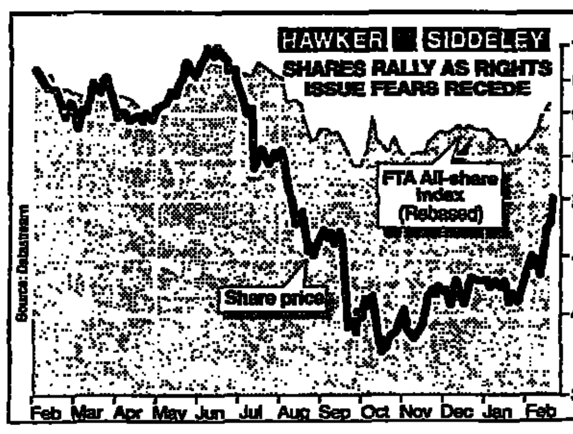
Sales of autumn clothing are believed to have been sluggish, but food has been even more affected and the likelihood of M&S improving on last year's pre-tax profits of £611.6 million appears remote. Bill Curry, a retail analyst at Hoare Govett, the broker, announced this week that trading at M&S was worse than the market had thought.

Mr Curry said: "You cannot buck the trend. We are looking for a second-half drop in profits."

He is forecasting pre-tax profits of £615 million for the current year, to March 31. Mr Curry added: "M&S is suffering worse this time round than it did in the recession of the early Eighties."

The fall in the M&S share price was highlighted by the rise in the rest of the equity market, the FT-SE 100 Index climbing 26.6 to 2,294.4, having been almost 40 points higher.

Dealers said the surge was led by the arbitrageurs who decided to sell futures and buy in the cash market, catching market-makers on the hop. By the close of business, more than 700 million shares had been traded with sentiment boosted by another firm start to trading by Wall Street.



Government securities saw gains halved, ending £¼ better with supplies of the ecu bond exhausted.

Wm Low, the Scottish supermarket chain, fell 15p to 307p after Sir Ron Brierley disposed of his 20 per cent stake. Goldman Sachs, the American securities house, placed the 11 million ordinary shares at 294p each and the 8 million convertible preference shares at 141½p each with various institutions.

Third-quarter figures from **British Telecom** were at the top end of expectations with pre-tax profits climbing £94 million to £787 million with earnings a share 1p higher at 8.5p. The shares advanced 3p to 298p.

Salomon Brothers, the American securities house, says that the duopoly report spells the beginning of the end of BT's dominance. But it is telling its clients not to rush out and buy **Cable and Wireless**, up 8p at 513p, just yet.

BOC Group, the industrial gases supplier, fell 9p to 527p after reporting a drop in first-quarter pre-tax profits of £10 million to £71.4 million. Richard Giordano, the chairman, complained that adverse currency movements had made a dent in profits but added that the business had grown in real terms.

Fisons rose 11p to 403p after a survey of asthma sufferers by ten American professors at the Heart, Lung and Blood Institute concluded that the group's two main treatments, Intal and Tilade, were the best available.

Hawker Siddley shrugged off last week's dullness, stemming from speculation about a rights issue with a rise of 22p at 510p. Dealers now claim that the group is vulnerable and could soon find itself on the receiving end of a bid. There has been talk that BTR has been building up a stake as the prelude to a bid.

BTR produced some disappointing figures recently, leading to claims that it is looking for acquisitions to boost earnings. A bid from one of the German industrial groups, or **Hanson**, cannot be ruled out. Hanson held steady at 215p despite a number of profit downgradings by analysts in the wake of Wednesday's first-quarter figures, showing flat earnings growth.

BAA rose 3p to 363p after announcing plans to raise £150 million via a Euro-convertible bond dated 2016. The group expects to spend £1.2 billion developing the proposed Terminal 5 at Heathrow.

NSM, the opencast coal mining and building products group, fell 6p to 26p after issuing a profits warning. The group says it has been unable to dispose of exhausted coal sites because of the worsening position of the building and property sectors. Several of its British investments are taking longer than expected to make a contribution and this has resulted in higher borrowings.

The group is now forecasting a small loss for the second half and is predicting significantly lower profits for the full year.

A profit warning left **Eurocopy**, the office equipment group, 59p lower at 95p while **Sheraton Securities**, the property developer, tumbled 3p to ¾p after reporting an interim loss of £56.6 million against a profit last time of £11.8 million.

MICHAEL CLARK

Tokyo rises for eighth day running

Tokyo
PRICES closed firmer for the eighth day running in the heaviest dealings for more than a year. The Nikkei index was up 216.9 points, or 0.86 per cent, to 25,356.37. The Nikkei's close was the highest since September 3.

Turnover expanded to 1.1 billion shares, the heaviest since December, 1989, compared with 950 million on Wednesday. Momentum from Wall Street's rally continued to overwhelm profit-taking as investors debated how long the bandwagon would keep rolling, traders said.

Ross Rowbury, the chief broker at Sanyo Securities, said: "The confidence is still there. But it looks like the market is a little top heavy and people are becoming more defensive."

● **Singapore** — Prices rose across the board in pre-holiday, half-day trading on strong buying fuelled by a sharp rise on Wall Street. The Straits Times industrial index advanced 15.45 points to 1,338.70. The market closed at midday for the Chinese new year holidays and will reopen on Monday.

● **Sydney** — The market limped to a weaker close as investors absorbed economic statistics which gave little hope of a rapid recovery from recession. The All-Ordinaries index eased 5.3 to 1,372.9.

● **Frankfurt** — Early buying which pushed Germany's Dax index above psychological resistance at 1,500 faded quickly, with shares ending mixed. The Dax ended 2.89 points lower at 1,486.72 after reaching a high for the day of 1,505.51.

● **Hong Kong** was closed for the Chinese new year holidays. *(Reuter)*

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Apr	Jul	Oct	Apr	Jul	Oct
Alld Lyons	460	75	81	92	4	10	13
(*512)	500	40	53	63	9	20	26
	550	15	26	38	35	47	52
ASDA	110	21	25	27	1½	3	5
(*127)	120	13	18	20	4	6	7½
	130	7	12	14	8	10	12
Bass	950	70	97	126	20	33	38
(*984)	1000	43	68	92	42	55	65
	1050	20	47	70	77	82	93
Boots	300	51	57	63	2	6	7½
(*342)	330	28	34	44	7½	15	17
	360	10	19	27	23	28	31
Br Airways	130	23	25	27	3	6	8
(*147)	140	15	17	21	7	11	13
	160	5	8½	-	18	23	-
BP	280	34	41	47	3½	8	11
(*307)	300	20	29	35	10	15	19
	330	7½	15	22	29	31	33
Br Steel	110	22½	25	25	1	2½	3½
(*127)	120	13½	16	17½	2	5½	6½
	130	6½	9	11	6	10	11½
C & W	460	75	85	98	5	12	17
(*515)	500	42	53	72	16	25	30
	550	16	-	-	43	-	-
CU	460	55	65	70	8	15	18
(*507)	500	22	36	47	23	28	34
	550	5	-	-	58	-	-
Courtauld	300	69	72	84	1	4½	6
(*359)	330	41	46	58	5½	11	13
	360	20	29	40	15	22	25
GKN	300	65	65	75	3	7	12
(*360)	330	36	45	50	10	16	23
	360	16	30	37	25	29	34
Grand Met	600	148	165	179	1	4	8
(*733)	650	103	122	138	4	12	15
	700	62	85	104	15	23	28
ICI	950	68	87	100	37	45	59
(*995)	1000	30	60	75	67	70	84
	1050	14	-	-	107	-	-
Kingfisher	360	56	62	68	4	10	13
(*400)	390	31	43	48	12	18	23
	420	15	25	35	27	34	38
Ladbroke	220	40	45	49	3	8½	10
(*248)	240	24	31	41	8	15	19
	260	13	20	-	17	26	-
Land Sec	460	115	123	-	1½	2½	-
(*562)	500	78	88	95	2½	7	8
	550	37	47	60	10	24	26
M & S	220	23	28	35	4	8½	10
(*234)	240	10	16	24	13	17	20
	260	4	8½	-	27	31	-
Sainsbury	300	48	52	62	2	6	7
(*337)	330	24	32	41	8½	14	17
	360	8½	16	25	25	30	34
Shell	420	40	56	65	8	12	14
(*459)	460	16	35	40	25	27	32
	500	5	16	-	58	58	-
Smkl Beech	600	98	117	130	4½	11	15
(*675)	650	57	78	95	16	25	30
	700	27	49	67	37	47	52
Storehse	100	20	22	24	3	5	7½
(*113)	110	12	16	19	6	9	12
	120	6	11	-	12	14	-
Trafalgar	200	36	40	47	5½	13	16
(*230)	220	23	29	37	13	22	24
	240	13	-	-	22	-	-
Ultramar	280	46	57	59	3	7	9
(*319)	300	30	44	49	10	13	15
	330	14	25	32	25	28	30
Unilever	600	135	142	-	2½	5	-
(*727)	650	87	102	120	5½	13	14
	700	43	62	83	20	28	33
	750	17	-	-	45	-	-
Utd Bisc	300	60	62	70	1½	3	5
(*354)	330	32	38	48	6½	9	11
	360	12	21	29	19	22	25

	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
BAA	330	34	50	57	1	7	13
(*364)	360	7	30	39	8	16	26
	390	1	16	26	30	34	43
BAT Ind	550	108	115	130	1	6	11
(*656)	600	58	70	90	2	15	22
	650	14	40	59	10	34	45
	700	1	20	37	50	65	75
BTR	330	34	40	53	1	8	13
(*364)	360	8	20	34	6	23	25
	390	1½	10	-	32	40	-
Br Aero	500	70	83	100	1	10	15
(*571)	550	24	47	62	4	27	33
	600	2½	20	38	37	53	62
Br Telecm	280	20½	33	39	¼	5½	9½
(*300)	300	4½	19	25	5½	12½	17
	330	1	-	-	32½	-	-
Cadbury	300	53	54	64	1	4	5½
(*351)	330	23	30	44	1	10	14
	360	2½	14	25	12	25	29
Guinness	750	68	87	110	2	14	21
(*806)	800	20	55	80	4	32	42
	850	1	-	-	37	-	-
GEC	160	41	46	49	½	1	2½
(*200)	180	21	29	32	¾	3	7
	200	3½	14½	17½	4	9	14
Hanson	180	36	43	45	½	2	3½
(*215)	200	16	26	30	1	4	7½
	220	2½	13	18	7	11½	15
LASMO	330	37	48	62	2	9	13
(*364)	360	12	30	42	7	20	23
	390	3	17	27	30	37	40
P & O	460	99	105	107	1	5½	8
(*556)	500	59	69	73	2	13	21
	550	15	33	48	7	37	40
Pilkington	160	27	32	36	1½	4	9
(*182)	180	7½	19	22	3	10	16
	200	1½	9½	12	18	20	26

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Prudential	180	38	42	45	1	3	3½
(*215)	200	18	25	29	1	6½	9
	220	2½	10	17	6	16	19
Racal	160	30	38	42	1	3½	5½
(*188)	180	11	24	26	4	8	11
	200	2	13½	18	13	18	22
RTZ	420	79	84	93	1	7	10
(*495)	460	38	47	64	1½	17	21
	500	6	22	42	12	36	40
Scot New	330	62	72	77	1½	3	6
(*390)	360	32	47	55	1½	8	13
	390	8	26	37	8	19	25
Tesco	214	31	34	40	1	4	4
(*242)	233	11	18	28	2	7	8
	253	1	5	15	14	18	20
Thames W.	280	33	45	49	1	4	8
(*314)	300	14	31	35	2	8	13
	330	3	13	17	20	23	29
Water Pk	2300	700	-	-	10	-	-
(*£3025)	2350	650	-	-	10	-	-
	2400	600	-	-	10	-	-
Lucas	130	16	21	27	1	5½	7½
(*146)	140	8	15	22	3	9	13
	160	1	7	12	17	20	22

	Series	Feb	Apr	Jul	Feb	Apr	Jul
Fisons	330	78	81	93	½	1	3
(*402)	360	48	52	68	½	4½	7½
	390	18	29	45	1½	13	16

	Series	Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Abbey Nat	220	44	44	48	1	2½	4
(*261)	240	25	29	33	3½	6½	9
	260	8	17	22	14	16	16
Amstrad	60	9½	13	17	2	4½	7
(*68)	70	3	6½	10	6	9	11
	80	1	-	-	13½	-	-
Barclays	360	47	55	62	7½	12	17
(*400)	390	20	35	42	17	22	30
	420	6	18	24	38	40	43
Blue Circ	220	32	37	43	3	8	12
(*249)	240	17	24	31	8	17	21
	260	7½	13	22	18	28	32
Br Gas	220	25	35	36	2	4	6½
(*241)	240	10½	20	22	6	10	14
	260	3½	9	12	21	22	26
Dixons	140	31	38	40	1	4	5
(*168)	160	14	23	25	5	8	12
	180	4	13	16	16	19	21
Glaxo	850	105	137	165	5	14	24
(*945)	900	62	100	129	15	28	38
	950	30	68	97	35	50	57
Hawker	420	100	105	113	3	9	14
(*510)	460	63	73	85	9	18	25
	500	35	43	60	17	34	44
Hillsdown	180	30	38	44	5	10	14
(*207)	200	16	26	32	10	18	22
	220	7	16	24	23	30	33
Lonrho	180	35	43	45	2	4	6
(*211)	200	16	27	29	5	7	13
	220	5½	15	18	18	19	22
Midland	140	52	52	55	1	2	4½
(*184)	160	32	32	35	3½	7	9
	180	14	19	24	13	17	19
	200	5½	10	14	27	29	30
Reuter	700	87	-	135	15	-	47
(*774)	750	50	-	113	35	-	63
	800	27	-	85	60	-	90
R-Royce	140	15	17	21	3½	6½	9
(*150)	160	4	8½	11	13½	19	21
	180	1	3	6½	31	36	37
Sears	70	22	24	24	1	2	2½
(*91)	80	13	14½	16	1½	4	5
	90	5	9	10	5	8½	10
THF	220	34	39	41	2	5	8
(*249)	240	17	23	30	5½	12	15
	260	6½	13	20	16	23	27
Thorn EMI	550	132	150	-	2	3	-
(*673)	600	82	104	110	3½	8	17
	650	40	67	72	13	20	33
	700	13	37	42	37	43	60
TSB	130	20	25	27	1	3	4½
(*148)	140	12	17	21	2½	6	8
	160	2½	7½	11	14	16	18
Vaal Reefs	50	10	14	16	3½	5½	9
(*$56)	60	4½	9	9½	9	12	14
Wellcome	460	80	100	117	3	10	15
(*525)	500	43	70	87	11	22	27
	550	20	40	-	35	43	-

	Series	Mar	May	Aug	Mar	May	Aug
Eastn Elec	140	32	35	38	2	3	5½
(*171)	160	14	20	23	4	6½	11
	180	4	10	13	14	16	23
Sthrn Elec	140	39	43	-	1½	3	-
(*178)	160	21	27	-	3	5½	-
	180	9	14	-	9	12	-
Elec Pack	1700	190	240	-	20	30	-
(*£1845)	1750	150	200	-	30	40	-
	1800	120	170	-	50	70	-

FT-SE INDEX (*£2293)

	2150	2200	2250	2300	2350	2400
Calls						
Feb	157	112	69	32	11	4
Mar	185	146	107	72	45	24
Apr	207	168	130	97	68	49
May	208	170	152	113	80	67
Jun	—	200	—	135	—	80
Puts						
Feb	3	5	11	30	63	112
Mar	13	19	31	52	78	113
Apr	23	31	44	64	95	130
May	29	40	57	77	102	137
Jun	—	50	—	83	—	138

INTERNATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Social Science Research Council

Human Dimensions of Global Environment Change

The SSRC anticipates adding a position as program officer for the Committee for Research on Global Environmental Change. This Committee focuses on the human dimensions of long-term environmental changes that occur at the level of continents or larger. Training and research on the environment are desiorble but not mandatory in the applicant's record. More importantly, this person should be a social scientist trained at the doctorate level for research in economics, geography, political science, sociology, or related fields; international in orientation and experience; capable of learning this interdisciplinary subject matter; and be able to work with both social and natural scientists. We would also expect this person to assist the Council in collateral program development, e.g. in health, and epidemiology, peace and security, development or resource economics, quantitative modelling and methodology, or other areas.

This full-time involves preparing and negotiating grant proposals for expansion of this program; assisting in the design of research programs and research consortia; planning seminars, workshops, and conferences; administering possible fellowship and grang competitions; supervising support staff; contributing to the Council's overall program; and maintaining relationships with researchers and academic and research institutions throughout the world.

Applicants must hold the Ph.D. in a relevant field. Writing skills are essential. Administrative experience and demonstrated fund-raising ability are desirable. The Council seeks applications from scholars with several years of teaching, research, and/or administrative experience, although it may also consider recent recipients of the Ph.D. Salaries are competitive with those at U.S. universities. The person appointed should be able to take up the position on or before September 1, 1991.

To apply, before June 1, 1991 send (a) a letter of application, (b) a curriculum vitae, and (c) three letters of reference to:

Global Change Search
Social Science Research Council
605 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10158
An Equal Opportunity Employer

An Italian system engineering and implementation company (part of a major U.S.A. corporation) with main offices in Rome, Italy, active in the telecommunications field, seeks system engineers with a good experience in one, or more, of the following areas:

A) System, design and field testing of digital microwave systems
B) Digital switching, ISDN systems and related services (e-mail, voice mail, etc.)
C) Mobile radio telephone networks (trunked radio, cellular)

For all positions university degree and availability to work in Italy and in various other countries are required.

Detailed curriculum to be sent to: Casella SPI 63/91, Via Boezio 6, 00192 Roma, Italy.

Highly referenced and qualified teachers to teach English in Italy required.

Competitive wage, flat and company car supplied.

Please reply in writing to:
E.G.C. Srl
Via G. Mazzei, 14
20020 ARESE (MI)
ITALY

ENGINEERING AND GEOLOGICAL OPPORTUNITIES IN INDONESIA

Virginia Indonesia Company (VICO), a leading international oil and gas operator with extensive operation in Indonesia is actively seeking experienced Engineers and Geologists. These positions are based in Indonesia and are family status approved.

RESERVOIR ENGINEERS (5)

● BS or MS Engineering, Petroleum preferred ● Minimum 10 years experience in Reservoir Engineering ● Proficient in reservoir computer simulation ● Actual gas fields depletion work experience including calculating depletion schedules ● Previous overseas experience required

PRODUCTION ENGINEERS (2)

● BS or MS in Petroleum, Mechanical or Chemical Engineering ● Minimum 10 years oil field experience with minimum 5 years as a Production Engineer and 2 years in production operations required ● Previous experience in reservior and drilling engineering/operations a plus ● Experience related to both oil and gas well production is required with significant gas well production preferred

GEOLOGISTS (4)

● BS or MS in Geology ● Minimum 12 years related experience ● Strong background in biostratigraphy ● Experience in thrustbelt and deltaic environments ● Previous overseas experience preferred

DRILLING ENGINEERS (2)

● BS Degree in Petroleum or Mechanical Engineering ● Minimum 10 years experience in the oil industry in Drilling Engineering and Operations ● Familiarity with workover and recompletion projects and equipment, and an understanding of multi-completion techniques ● Familiarity with Gulf Coast type drilling conditions, including geopressure, formation damage, etc. ● Previous overseas experience is desirable

DRILLING SUPERINTENDENT

● BS Degree in Petroleum, Mechanical or Chemical Engineering ● Minimum 20 years experience in drilling engineering and operations, workovers and field operations ● Strong supervisory and leadership skills ● Familiarity with downhole tools and equipment, and ability to analyze downhole conditions ● Familiarity with Gulf Coast type drilling conditions ● Previous overseas experience is desirable

SENIOR MECHANICAL ENGINEERING SPECIALIST

● BS or MS in Mechanical Engineering ● Minimum 12 years experience with operating company in petrochemcial or gas industries or an international engineering and construction company ● Experience in plant design and commissioning ● Knowledge of turbine and compressor design and manufacturing methods, strength of materials and selection of materials for corrosion & wear resistance ● Full working knowledge of commissioning and trouble-shooting procedures for mechanical equipment, calculating efficiencies, etc.

PROCESS ENGINEERING SUPERINTENDENT

● BS or MS in Chemical Engineering ● 10-15 years engineering experience, with emphasis on process engineering applications within LNG/Cryogenics process plants ● Experience required in all phases of plant process engineering, including trouble-shooting, project development and design, equipment testing, operations monitoring, and monitoring of contractors within plant ● Previous overseas experience in LNG/Ethylene environment preferred

VICO provides an attractive overseas compensation and benefits package along with a challenging work environment. Candidates please send resume and letter detailing employment situation and salary history to:

VICO, VIRGINIA INDONESIA COMPANY, P.O. Box 1551, Houston, Texas 77251-1551, Attn: Staffing Department

No Phone Calls Please Principals Only M/F EOE

Interesting Sales Opportunity

Established German manufacturer of drive-on one-step automotive test stand for brakes, alignment and suspension seeks sales agents for the United Kingdom. Must be ready for "Aftermarket 91" exhibition at Olympia, London 3 - 5 March 91. Excellent Opportunity for

dynamic and experienced person

with proven sales record. Must have personality and be willing to make commitment to developing satisfied customers. Management potential for applicant with top sales and leadership skills.

Contact: Mr Kallinich
HEKA Werk
Ensisheimer Str. 4
W-7800 Freiburg
Germany
Tel. 01049-761-81080
Fax. 01049-761-81089

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ABB is the world's leading group in the electrotechnical industry. We are active in more than 140 countries, with 220,000 employees worldwide.

ABB Power Ventures Ltd. is a 100% subsidiary of ABB, in charge of ABB's joint ventures in Eastern Europe in the power plant segment.

To build up and strengthen our Joint Ventures' financial teams in Poland and Hungary we need qualified and experienced specialists on site who seek to use and expand their knowledge and skills in a challenging environment.

RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF FINANCE AND CONTROL SYSTEMS

Key job elements:
- *introduction of Western finance and control systems in joint ventures*
- *support of the accounting function*
- *establish financial reporting systems*
- *set up control systems*
- *introduction of risk management*
- *implementation of offer calculation systems*
- *budgeting and forecasting*
- *introduction of modern data processing systems*

Profile:
- *solid experience in finance, control and accounting*
- *experience in using and introducing modern data processing systems*
- *broad financial background*
- *interest in Eastern Europe*
- *"educator"- interested in working with people*
- *flexible and dynamic*

This assignment for ABB would start immediately and extend through 1991 with possibility of prolongation.

Send you C.V. to and/or contact:

ABB Asea Brown Boveri Ltd.
Ramón Fretz
Personnel Services
8050 Zurich (Switzerland)
Phone 01041 1 317 73 76

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UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK

M.F. KENT
CHAIR OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT

The constituent colleges of the University of Limerick are: Business, Engineering & Science and Humanities. The *riverside campus is located at the heart of the 650-acre* Plassey Technological Park on the banks of the river Shannon.

The College of Business has a student enrolment in excess of 1,200 and offers programmes of teaching and research to Doctorate level.

This newly created chair, endowed by M.F. Kent and Co. (International) Ltd., is being established within the College of Business at the University. The person appointed to fill the Chair, as the M.F. Kent Professor of Project Management, will be expected to design and develop undergraduate and postgraduate programmes of teaching and research in project management, which focus on project construction management as a central theme.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the above post. It is expected that the person appointed will have a record of achievement at senior management level in the construction, engineering or other relevant sectors and hold appropriate postgraduate qualifications.

An attractive remuneration package reflecting the importance of this appointment will be negotiated with the successful candidate.

Application material, available from the Personnel Department, University of Limerick, Plassey Technological Park, Limerick, Ireland, should be completed and returned by Friday, 29 March 1991.

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THE TIMES

[illegible]

Portfolio
PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Hepworth	Industrials E-K	
2	Granada	Industrials E-K	
3	Wintrust	Banks,Discount	
4	Compass Gp	Leisure	
5	Allied Text	Textiles	
6	NFC	Transport	
7	Brixton	Property	
8	Porter Chadburn	Industrials L-R	
9	Boot (Henry)	Building,Roads	
10	Frogmore	Property	
11	Rugby Group	Building,Roads	
12	BICC	Electricals	
13	Speyhawk	Property	
14	Northumbrian	Water	
15	Tate & Lyle	Foods	
16	Charter Cons	Industrials A-D	
17	Trusthse Ft	Hotels,Caterers	
18	Kershaw (A)	Industrials E-K	
19	Bass	Breweries	
20	Portals	Industrials L-R	
21	De La Rue	Industrials A-D	
22	Helical Bar	Property	
23	Asda	Property	
24	Smiths Ind	Industrials S-Z	
25	Dowty	Motors,Aircraft	
26	Glaxo	Industrials E-K	
27	Allied Lon	Property	
28	Waddington (J)	Paper,Print,Adv	
29	Severn Trent	Water	
30	Halma	Industrials E-K	
31	Johnson Matthey	Industrials E-K	
32	Coats Viyella	Drapery,Stores	
33	Racal Elect	Electricals	
34	North West	Water	
35	Power Corp	Property	
36	Tomkins	Industrials S-Z	
37	Logica	Electricals	
38	Spirax-Sarco	Industrials S-Z	
39	Norcros	Industrials L-R	
40	Whitecroft	Industrials S-Z	
41	Smthkl Beech	Industrials S-Z	
42	Bullough	Industrials A-D	
43	Vibroplant	Building,Roads	
44	Weir	Industrials S-Z	
© Times Newspapers Ltd.		Daily Total	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in tomorrow's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

There were no valid claims for the Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday. The £2,000 will be added to today's competition.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Strong support

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began February 11, Dealings end February 22. §Contango day February 25. Settlement day March 4. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Portfolio
PLATINUM
© Times Newspapers Limited
DAILY DIVIDEND
£4,000
Claims required for +67 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

UNDATED

INDEX-LINKED

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

BREWERIES

BUILDING, ROADS

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

DRAPERY, STORES

ELECTRICALS

ELECTRICITY

FINANCE, LAND

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

FOODS

HOTELS, CATERERS

INDUSTRIALS A-D

E - K

L - R

S - Z

INSURANCE

Investment Trusts appear on Page 30

LEISURE

MINING

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS

OILS, GAS

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

PROPERTY

SHOES, LEATHER

TEXTILES

TOBACCOS

TRANSPORT

WATER

High	Low	Company	Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
313	239	Anglian Water	303	306●	+6	20.4	6.7	7.1
315	215½	Northumbrian	310	313●	+5	21.4	6.9	3.8
318	211½	North West	299	302●	+6	21.0	7.0	6.5
286	190	Severn Trent	280	283●	+7	19.8	7.0	4.9
300	191	Sthrn Water	285	288●	+2	20.0	7.1	6.1
327	203	South West	310	313●	+2	23.2	7.4	5.0
314	205	Thames Water	312	315●	+5	21.4	6.8	7.7
332	219	Welsh Water	323	326●	+3	22.4	6.9	5.3
338	209	Wessex Water	337	340●	+10	20.8	6.0	6.5
321	221½	Yorkshire Water	304	307●	+3	20.6	6.7	6.6
£3040	£1000	Package Unit	£3028		●+£43			

● Ex dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend e Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment k Pre-merger figures n Forecast earnings o Ex other r Ex rights s Ex scrip or share split t Tax-free .. No significant data.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

[illegible]

The prices in this section refer to Wednesday's trading

** Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return) ● Ex dividend, c Cum dividend, k Cum stock split, s Ex stock split, m Cum all (any two or more of above), a Ex all (any two or more of above). Dealing or valuation days: (1) Monday. (2) Tuesday. (3) Wednesday. (4) Thursday. (5) Friday.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

[illegible]

● Ex dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend e Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment k Pre-merger figures n Forecast earnings o Ex other r Ex rights s Ex scrip or share split t Tax-free .. No significant data.

MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was down at 94.4 (day's range 94.3-94.4).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Feb 14	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
New Yrk	1.9790-1.9845	1.9800-1.9810	1.08-1.07pr	3.13-3.11pr
Montrl	2.2822-2.2909	2.2839-2.2881	0.44-0.40pr	0.96-0.87pr
Amstrdm	3.2644-3.2746	3.2710-3.2746	1¼-1pr	3¾-3½pr
Brussels	59.51-59.89	59.68-59.89	19-16pr	56-47pr
Cophgn	11.1335-11.1856	11.1335-11.1590	3¼-2¾pr	8¾-7¾pr
Dublin	1.0870-1.0920	1.0882-1.0892	25-19pr	64-49pr
Frankft	2.8973-2.9061	2.9027-2.9061	1¼-⅞pr	3-2¾pr
Lisbon	254.80-256.34	255.22-256.34	6-90ds	97-139ds
Madrid	181.08-181.96	181.17-181.86	11-17ds	41-52ds
Milan	2178.88-2186.92	2181.47-2186.53	3-1pr	6-4pr
Oslo	11.3296-11.3791	11.3296-11.3551	3¼-2¾pr	7¾-6¾pr
Paris	9.8713-9.9027	9.8842-9.8891	3¼-2¾pr	8¼-7¾pr
Stckhlm	10.8563-10.9068	10.8569-10.8816	1-⅞pr	1⅝-1pr
Tokyo	256.34-257.13	256.81-257.13	1⅛-1pr	3¾-3⅜pr
Vienna	20.3758-20.4518	20.4217-20.4518	7-5¾pr	19¾-17pr
Zurich	2.4817-2.4901	2.4869-2.4901	1⅛-1pr	3¼-3pr

Source: Extel *Premium = pr. Discount = ds.*

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina austral*	18492.0-18541.0
Australia dollar	2.5184-2.5229
Bahrain dinar	n/a
Brazil cruzeiro *	440.103-440.444
Cyprus pound	0.835-0.845
Finland marka	7.0275-7.0875
Greece drachma	309.15-312.35
Hong Kong dollar	15.4485-15.4584
India rupee	37.08-37.48
Kuwait dinar KD	n/a
Malaysia ringgit	5.3220-5.3287
Mexico peso	5850-5950
New Zealand dollar	3.2633-3.2705
Saudi Arabia riyal	n/a
Singapore dollar	3.3831-3.3906
S Africa rand (fin)	8.3259-8.4828
S Africa rand (com)	5.0205-5.0295
U A E dirham	n/a

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank.*

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Ireland	1.6180-1.6195
Singapore	1.7065-1.7095
Malaysia	2.6845-2.6865
Australia	1.2699-1.2709
Canada	1.1532-1.1542
Sweden	5.4900-5.4950
Norway	5.7250-5.7300
Denmark	5.6300-5.6350
W Germany	1.4633-1.4640
Switzerland	1.2533-1.2558
Netherlands	1.6483-1.6493
France	4.9835-4.9865
Japan	129.25-129.35
Italy	1100.5-1101.5
Belgium (Com)	30.11-30.14
Hong Kong	7.7905-7.7915
Portugal	128.95-129.15
Spain	91.40-91.50
Austria	10.28-10.30

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Dec 31, 1990 Agreed rates Jan 26, 1991 to Feb 25, 1991 Scheme I: 14.54%. Schemes II & III: 15.09%. Reference rate Dec 1, 1990 to Dec 31, 1990 Scheme IV & V: 13.843%.

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 13½ Finance Hse 14
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 13⅝ Low 13⅝ Week fixed: 13⅝
Treasury Bills (Dis):Buy: 2 mth 12⅝; 3 mth 12⅝. Sell: 2 mth 12⅝; 3 mth: 12⅝.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	13 3/32-13 1/16	12 13/16-11/16	12¾-12⅝	11 23/32-11⅝	
Trade Bills (Dis):	13 22/32	13 7/16	13⅛	12 11/32	
Interbank:	13 11/16-13⅝	13⅝-13 1/32	13 3/16-1/16	12⅝-12 9/16	12 1/16-12
(Overnight: open 13⅝, close 13⅝.					
Local Authority Deps:	13⅝	n/a	13⅛	12⅝	12
Sterling CDs:	13 9/16-13 7/16	13 5/16-13 3/16	13⅛-13	12 9/16-7/16	11 15/16-11¾
Dollar CDs:	6.50-6.45	6.62-6.57	6.52-6.47	6.52-6.47	6.75-6.70
Building Society CDs:	13⅝-13½	13⅜-13¼	13 3/16-1/16	12 9/16-7/16	12-11⅞

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	6⅝-5½	6 7/16-6¼	6⅝-6 7/16	6⅝-6 7/16	6⅛-6
Deutschemark:	8 13/16-11/16	8 15/16-13/16	9 1/16-8 15/16	9 1/16-8 15/16	8⅝-7⅞
French Franc:	9⅝-9½	9⅝-9½	9 13/16-11/16	9⅝-9⅜	10-9
Swiss Franc:	8-7⅞	8 1/16-7 15/16	8-7⅞	7⅞-7¾	8-7
Yen:	8⅛-7⅞	8-7⅞	7⅞-7¾	7⅝-7½	7⅞-6⅞

GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS *(Baird & Co)*

Bullion: Open $386.75-387.25 Close: $387.90-388.40 High: $387.90-388.40
Low: $386.25-386.75 Krugerrand: $387.00-388.00 (£185.00-186.00)
Sovereigns: Old $93.00-94.00 (£46.50-47.50) New $87.00-88.00 (£44.00-45.00)
Platinum: $388.35 (£195.80) Silver: $3.79 (£1.905) Palladium: $87.25 (£44.00)

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100	Mar 91	2314.0	2331.0	2306.0	2319.0	6642
Previous open interest: 38377	Jun 91	2367.5	2369.0	2361.0	2368.5	244
	Sep 91				2391.0	0
Three Month Sterling	Mar 91	87.22	87.31	87.21	87.24	27908
Previous open interest: 153502	Jun 91	88.53	88.62	88.53	88.59	15100
	Sep 91	89.22	89.35	89.22	89.34	5418
Three Month Eurodollar	Mar 91	93.36	93.37	93.35	93.36	1658
Previous open interest: 39212	Jun 91	93.46	93.49	93.46	93.49	1334
Three Month Euro DM	Mar 91	90.87	90.99	90.85	90.96	10914
Previous open interest: 94775	Jun 91	91.14	91.21	91.09	91.21	13591
US Treasury Bond	Mar 91	96-12	96-16	96-09	96-15	1322
Previous open interest: 6854	Jun 91				97-29	0
Long Gilt	Mar 91	93-12	93-27	93-06	93-19	31580
Previous open interest: 44092	Jun 91	93-30	94-13	93-26	94-06	3584
Japanese Govt Bond	Mar 91	97.30	97.40	97.20	97.35	58
Previous open interest: 648	Jun 91	97.59	97.65	97.58	97.64	25
German Govt Bond	Mar 91	85.08	86.10	85.02	86.07	73285
Previous open interest: 103178	Jun 91	85.16	86.25	85.16	86.23	6329
Three month ECU	Mar 91	90.20	90.38	90.20	90.36	209
Previous open interest: 2269	Jun 91	90.51	90.68	90.51	90.65	123

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

[illegible]

COMMODITIES

LONDON FOX

COCOA		COFFEE		SUGAR (FOB) C Czarnikow	
Mar	610-608	Mar	524-523	Mar	186.0-85.2
May	647-646	May	537-535	May	188.0-87.0
Jul	677-676	Jul	551-550	Aug	192.4-91.6
Sep	702-701	Sep	571-569	Oct	191.4-90.6
Dec	735-734	Nov	587-584	Dec	192.6-90.4
Mar	761-760	Jan	603-597	Mar	191.0-90.8
May	780-779	Mar	620-608		
Vol: 4183		Vol: 6887		Vol: 2898	

LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT Close (£/t)		BARLEY Close (£/t)		HI-PRO SOYA Close (£/t)	
Mar	124.30	Mar	114.75	Apr	111.5-10.5
May	127.80	May	117.80	Jun	110.0-09.5
Jun	129.80	Sep	103.80	Aug	112.0-11.5
Sep	107.15	Nov	107.30	Oct	115.0-14.0
Nov	110.65	Jan	110.65	Dec	120.0-18.5
Vol:	394	Vol:	147	Vol:	135

LONDON POTATO FUTURES Volume: 104

	Open	Close
Feb (£/tonne)	unq	unq
Apr	126.0	126.0
May	149.0	148.5

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on February 14

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	90.47	155.62	111.52
(+/-)	+5.56	*+8.52	+2.36
Eng/Wales:	90.63	156.23	112.49
(+/-)	+5.72	+8.44	+2.65
(%)	+16.8	-20.3	-3.6
Scotland:	72.11	151.82	107.16
(+/-)	-10.47	+11.28	-0.23
(%)	+23.3	-58.3	-21.4

* Estimated dead carcase weight

LONDON MEAT FUTURES

Live Pig (£/kg)

	Feb	Mar	Apr
Open:	unq	unq	unq
Close:	107.0	109.8	109.3

Volume: 136

LONDON OIL REPORTS (ICIS-LOR) - London 6.00pm:

Oil prices eased on news that there would be a meeting in Moscow today between the Iranian Foreign Minister and President Gorbachev.

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	20.45	-0.45
Brent 15 day (Mar)	19.80	-0.45
Brent 15 day (Apr)	18.95	-0.40
W Texas Intermediate (Mar)	22.20	-0.50
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	20.45	-0.55

PRODUCTS (Buy/sell $/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Gas 1.5	237 (-1)	242 (-1)
Gasoil EEC	270 (-10)	275 (-15)
Non EEC 1H Mar	237 (-15)	241 (-14)
Non EEC 1H Apr	unq	
3.5 Fuel Oil	76 (+3)	80 (+5)
Naphtha	223 (-3)	228 (-3)

IPE FUTURES

GAS OIL

Mar	211.50-11.25	Jul	166.00-65.50
Apr	180.00-79.00	Aug	168.00-66.00
May	169.00-68.00	Sep	166.50 BID
Jun	167.00-65.50		Vol: 7143

BRENT

Mar	19.80-19.85	May	18.20-18.30
Apr	18.95-19.00		Vol: n/a

BIFFEX
GNI Freight Futures Dry Cargo ($10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Feb 91	1620	1604	1620
Mar 91	1570	1540	1568
Apr 91	1455	1430	1448
Jul 91	1125	1100	1110

Vol: 329 lots Open interest: 3840
Dry cargo index 1590 +14

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day) Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A (£/tonne)	1233.0-1234.0	1236.0-1237.0	531325
Lead (£/tonne)	305.00-307.00	317.00-317.50	51500
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1220.0-1223.0	1210.0-1211.0	237350
Tin ($/tonne)	5545.0-5550.0	5640.0-5645.0	7335
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1502.0-1503.0	1533.0-1534.0	376025
Nickel ($/tonne):	8650.0-8680.0	8625.0-8630.0	10008

FOX MGMI INDEX (Spot prices)

	Bid	Offer
Feb	155.90	157.00
Mar	156.00	156.90
Apr	156.10	157.00

Vol: 245

House of Lords

Tax inspector is presumed to act reasonably

Regina v Commissioners of Inland Revenue and Another, Ex parte T. C. Coombs & Co

Before Lord Mackay of Clashfern, Lord Chancellor, Lord Oliver of Aylmerton, Lord Goff of Chieveley, Lord Jauncey of Tullichettle and Lord Lowry

[Speeches February 14]

Where a tax inspector had issued a notice under section 20(3) of the Taxes Management Act 1970 compelling a party to disclose documents which, in his reasonable opinion, might contain information relevant to the tax liability of a taxpayer, the notice having been confirmed by a commissioner under section 20(7), and where on judicial review of the issue of the notice the inspector had refused on the ground of confidentiality to disclose the evidence relied before the commissioner, it was to be presumed that the commissioner had been satisfied that the inspector had held the required reasonable belief.

There was a duty on the tax inspector, however, when appearing before the commissioner under section 20(7), to lay before him all the information he had about any relevant circumstances including any which might be unfavourable to the giving of the notice.

The House of Lords so held in allowing an appeal by the Inland Revenue from the order of the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Parker and Lord Justice Taylor, Lord Justice Bingham dissenting) (*The Times* June 1, 1989; [1989] STC 520) which had allowed an appeal by the applicants, T. C. Coombs & Co, a firm of stockbrokers, from the refusal of Mr Justice Schiemann ([1989] STC 104) to quash a section 20(3) notice directed at them in so far as it related to six named companies or to grant a declaration that they had complied with the notice regarding a seventh company and the taxpayer under investigation.

The taxpayer had been employed by the applicants from 1979-1984 on a commission basis as a trader. In 1987 and 1988 the Revenue had served section 20(3) notices on the applicants requiring them to deliver or make available all documents relating to the taxpayer, in particular with relation to 12 named companies.

In response the applicants had supplied documents relating to four companies which had been clients of the taxpayer. They had deposed that six companies had been their clients but that after making enquiries with those companies had been assured that the taxpayer had no connection with them and so did *not* furnish documents.

The applicants had supplied documents relating to another company but the Revenue had not accepted that those represented all the documents relating to the company in the applicants' possession. The twelfth company had been unknown to the applicants.

The notice had been later withdrawn and replaced by a second notice restricted to the six companies in respect of which no information had been furnished and the seventh company, in respect of which the Revenue believed there to be outstanding documents.

In the judicial review proceedings the applicants had adduced evidence that the companies had no connection with the taxpayer and had submitted that no reasonable inspector could have come to the conclusion that there might be such a link. The Revenue had refused to disclose to the judge the information it had placed before the commissioner, on the ground of confidentiality.

The judge had dismissed the application, but the Court of Appeal had held that the applicants' evidence had established a *prima facie* case that the inspector could not reasonably have held the required opinion, which the Revenue had failed to rebut.

Mr Philip Vallance, QC and Mr Launcelot Henderson for the Revenue; Mr David Goldberg, QC and Mr Edward Bailey for the applicants.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said that section 20(7) provided that consent of a commissioner was required to the giving of a notice by an inspector under section 20(3) and that the commissioner was to give his consent only on being satisfied that in all the circumstances, his Lordship emphasised "all the circumstances", the inspector was *justified* in proceeding under the section.

The obligation on the commissioner to consider all the circumstances implied a duty on the Revenue officer appearing before the commissioner to lay before him all the information he had about the relevant circumstances including any which might be unfavourable to the giving of the notice.

Where an application for judicial review was made in circumstances such as the present, his Lordship regarded it as appropriate for the Revenue affidavit to include a statement of the way in which the sitting before the commissioner had been conducted, with as much detail of the subject matter placed before him as was possible.

For example, there was no reason why it should not be stated that all correspondence passing between the Revenue and the person to whom the notice was proposed to be given relating to the notice was placed before the commissioner if that had taken place.

His Lordship would allow the appeal for the reasons given by Lord Lowry.

LORD JAUNCEY, agreeing with Lord Lowry, said that the Revenue had a heavy responsibility when seeking to exercise their powers under section 20 and they must only hide behind a cloak of confidence when that was absolutely necessary and not as a matter of course.

If a person to whom a request for documents had been made asked reasonable questions or raised reasonable objections the Revenue should deal with those matters unless there were compelling reasons for adopting a wall of silence.

LORD LOWRY said that the case for the validity of the second notice, or any section 20(3) notice, was supported by the presumption of regularity, which was strong in relation to the function of the commissioner under section 20(7).

He was an independent person entrusted by Parliament with the duty of supervising the exercise of the intrusive power conferred by section 20(3) and "in the absence of any proof to the contrary, credit ought to be given to public officers, who have acted *prima facie* within the limits of their authority, for having done so with honesty and discretion": see *Earl of Derby v Bury Improvement Commissioners* ((1869) LR 4 Ex 222, 226).

The commissioner had to be taken to be satisfied that the inspector was justified in proceeding under section 20 and hence that the inspector held, and reasonably held, the opinion required by section 20(3).

The presumption that the opinion was reasonable and that the commissioner was right to be satisfied could be displaced only by evidence showing that at the time of giving the second notice the inspector could not reasonably have held that opinion.

In order to decide whether the applicants had succeeded in that task, the court had to consider all the evidence on both sides and all the available facts, one of which was that the commissioner, having heard an application, consented to the giving of the notice.

Another fact was the sparseness of the evidence adduced by the Revenue. In the legal system generally, the silence of one party in face of the other party's evidence might convert that evidence into proof in relation to matters which were, or were likely to be, within the knowledge of the silent party and about which that party could be expected to give evidence.

Thus, depending on the circumstances, a *prima facie* case might become a strong or even an overwhelming case. But, if the silent party's failure to give evidence, or to give the necessary evidence, could be credibly explained, even if not entirely justified, the effect of his silence in favour of the other party, might be either reduced or nullified.

Mr Justice Schiemann and all the members of the Court of Appeal had commented with varying emphasis on what appeared to his Lordship also to be the excessive degree of reticence of the Revenue in this case, but three comments had in fairness to be made:

1 Part of the evidence was that an express undertaking, the observance of which was dictated by morality and expediency alike, had been given to an important source not to reveal either the source or the information obtained from it.
2 Without knowing the facts a court could not tell what evidence, if given, might indirectly betray a source.
3 The Revenue had relied on their general duty of confidentiality as a justification for their reticence.

Provided they were not shown to be acting in bad faith, their attitude at least explained, if it might not entirely justify, their reticence, and thereby reduced its effect in favour of the applicants.

Applying the principles to the instant case, the evidence did not show that the inspector's opinion, when he gave the second notice, had been unreasonable, for the following reasons:

1 Possibly the best evidence for the applicants was the deposition of each of the six companies that the taxpayer had never had any dealings with them and that neither he nor any person connected with him were beneficial owners of any of the companies. But the reliability of that evidence could not be assumed when it could not be tested against the information, some of it confidential, which the inspector could have put before the commissioner.
2 Even if his Lordship hazarded a guess, it was little more, that the Revenue could, and perhaps should, have made fuller disclosure, there was still evidence, obtained from the informant and presumably given to the commissioner, which the Revenue could not tell the court.
3 The fact that the commissioner in those circumstances gave his consent was of paramount importance.
4 The applicants had purported to prove facts about the six companies. What they had needed to do was prove facts which were inconsistent, or irreconcilable, with the inspector's having had a reasonable, not necessarily a correct, opinion when he gave the second notice that the applicants had documents relating to the six companies which contained, or might contain, information relevant to any tax liability to which the taxpayer was, or might be or might have been, subject.

To support their case the applicants, as a *reductio ad absurdum*, submitted that, if the Revenue's arguments were sound, the quashing of a section 20(3) notice, though available in theory, could never be achieved in practice.

That prospect did not fill his Lordship with alarm when he reflected that Parliament had subjected an intrusive and potentially oppressive, but presumably necessary, power to what he suggested to be the effective supervision of section 20(7). Nor should the difficulty of achieving a remedy cause surprise when one considered the following points:

1 The applicant had to prove a negative.
2 What he had to prove was not a fact within his own knowledge but the absence of a reasonable opinion on the part of somebody else, namely, the inspector.
3 The inspector's opinion had to have been reasonable but need not have been correct.
4 The resolution of the question would usually depend in large measure on evidence which was not before the court.
5 By reason of the principle of confidentiality, which the applicant conceded, the general rule for taking account of a party's silence did not fully apply and, for the same reason, the court could not assess the extent to which in each case it did not apply.
6 Proceedings in which affidavit evidence was the general rule were not well suited to resolving factual questions.

His Lordship hoped that those observations would also help to show how much better a position the commissioner was in to make a just appraisal under section 20(7) than a court conducting a judicial review.

They might also illustrate what his Lordship regarded as the fallacy of relying on readily understandable silence as a means of converting into proof an inconclusive *prima facie* case.

With regard to the outstanding question as to whether the applicants had proved that the inspector's opinion that there remained in the applicants' power or possession relevant documents which they had not disclosed relating to the seventh company was not reasonable, the answer had to be "No".

His Lordship had noted the contrast between the Revenue's attitude of acceptance towards the disclosure made in respect of four of the original 12 companies and their scepticism, for which he felt there was bound to be a rational explanation, with regard to the seventh company.

Lord Oliver and Lord Goff agreed.

Solicitors: Solicitor for Inland Revenue; Edwin Coe.

Queen's Bench Division

Merchant seaman liable for poll tax although at sea

Bradford City Metropolitan Council v Anderton

Before Mr Justice Hutchison

[Judgment February 14]

A merchant ship plying the high seas could not in law constitute a person's residence. For poll tax purposes a merchant seaman's house on shore was his sole or main residence.

Mr Justice Hutchison so held in the Queen's Bench Division upholding an appeal by Bradford City Metropolitan Council against a decision of the West Yorkshire Valuation and Community Charge Tribunal to remove the name of Mr Neil Anderton from the community charge register in respect of his house in Silsden and ordering the return of poll tax he had paid in respect of it.

Section 2 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 provides: "(1) A person is subject to a charging authority's personal community charge on any day if . . . (b) he has his sole or main residence in the area of the authority at any time on the day . . . (c) he is not an exempt individual on the day . . . "(3) In deciding whether a person has his sole or main residence in an area, the fact that he does not live in a building is irrelevant.

Paragraph 14 of Schedule 1 provides: "(1) A person is an exempt individual on a particular day if — (a) throughout the day he has no fixed abode in England and Wales or elsewhere, and (b) at the end of the day the place of his sole or main residence does not consist of a building, caravan or residential boat.

"(2) A residential boat is a boat which is designed or adapted for human habitation.

Mr Vincent Fraser for the council; Mr Dirik Jackson for the respondent.

MR JUSTICE HUTCHISON said Mr Anderton lived in the house only 70 days a year. For the remainder of the year he was a seafarer on the Atlantic Conveyor. The tribunal had decided having regard to his service record that his main residence was the Atlantic Conveyor and not his house in Silsden, Keighley, West Yorkshire.

The council contended that that decision was wrong in law because "sole or main residence" meant a person's usual dwelling place or abode. A sailor could not have his residence on the seas, the time spent on ship being for trade and not residence.

It also argued that the tribunal erred in taking account only of the relative lengths of time spent in the house and on the ship, when it should have taken account of all the circumstances of the case.

For Mr Anderton, it was contended that it was for the tribunal to determine what the words of section 2 of the 1988 Act meant in their natural and ordinary meaning. The whole issue revolved around the comparative significance of the different residences and the tribunal had properly treated time as decisive. An appeal should succeed only if there was an error of law on the face of the decision or the facts were such that no reasonable tribunal properly applying the law could have reached the decision complained of.

After reviewing the authorities, his Lordship said a merchant ship, plying the high seas could not in law constitute a person's residence. That conclusion was supported by *In re Young* ([1875] 1 Tax Cas 57) and *Rogers v Inland Revenue* ([1879] 1 Tax Cas 225).

It was not invalidated by the provisions of paragraph 14 of Schedule 1 to the 1988 Act because a boat was not a ship and because the context showed that Parliament had in mind something akin to a houseboat and quite different from the Atlantic Conveyor.

His Lordship expressed no opinion as to what would be the position of a person whose home was in a small boat or yacht, capable of putting to sea.

The house was Mr Anderton's sole residence and the tribunal was wrong to say that the case revolved around the words "main residence".

Even if the Atlantic Conveyor could be a residence, the line of cases culminating in *R v Barnet LBC, Ex parte Shah* ([1983] 2 AC 309) established that Mr Anderton's sole or main resident was the house, because that was where his home was, where he had his settled and usual abode, which he left only when the exigencies of his occupation compelled him to go to sea.

The tribunal was wrong to concentrate almost exclusively on the question of time. It could and should also have taken account of the fact that Mr Anderton regarded the house as his home, that it was where his wife lived, that he had security of tenure in the house but none on the ship.

Solicitors: Mr A. R. Sykes, Bradford; Bridge McFarland, Louth.

Section refers to proceedings not matters after effective date

Regina v Cruttenden

Before Lord Justice Glidewell, Mr Justice Otton and Mr Justice Hidden

[Reasons January 24]

The phrase "in any proceedings" in section 80(5) of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984, meant on its true construction any proceedings, not matters, which took place after the subsection came into effect.

The Court of Appeal so held giving reasons for having allowed on December 18 an appeal by Roger Christian Cruttenden, aged 53, of St Mellons, Cardiff, a garage owner and property developer, against conviction in February 1988 at Newport Crown Court (Judge David Smith, QC and a jury) of four offences of corruption relating to giving inducements or rewards to Brian Carey Thomas, chief planner of Taff Ely Borough Council relating to his principal's affairs respecting planning applications.

He was sentenced to nine months imprisonment on each count concurrent, six to be served and three suspended. The sentence was reduced on appeal in October 1989 when he was released.

In October 1989 Mr Thomas's conviction was quashed on appeal.

Section 80(5) provides: "In any proceedings a person who has been but is no longer married to the accused shall be competent and compellable to give evidence as if that person and the accused had never been married."

Mr John C. Rees and Mr Jonathan Furness, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr Maurice Kay, QC and Mr Philip Rees for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE GLIDEWELL, giving the reasons of the court, said that the trial judge was correct in ruling that the appellant's former wife, Mrs Janet Elizabeth Cruttenden, was a competent and compellable witness in respect of matters which had occurred during her marriage to him.

There was no evidence to go to the jury on two of the counts. Because of errors both in the conduct of the prosecution case and in the summing up in relation to the other two counts their Lordships could not say that the conviction was safe or satisfactory and the appeal on all four counts was allowed.

Solicitors: CPS, Newport.

REGISTRATION NUMBERS

DVLA
CLASSIC
COLLECTION

91 AA
ABB 1E
D1 ABL
99 ACL
ACM 1E
91 ACW
60 ADR
ADV 1E
1000 AE
100 AFG
25 AG
40 AJ
32 AJR
25 AJM
70 AK
D1 ALL
H1 ALL
ALV 1S
100 AN
ANN 1S
30 APR
ARK 1E
ARR 1S
B1 ART
ART 10S
35 AS
24 ASB
AUD 1E
20 AUD
AUS 1E
70 AV
100 AV
AXE 1T
60 BA
BAL 1G
B1 BAN
BAS 1N
888 BBS
200 BD
88 BF
A2 BLE
20 BEE
C1 BER
BLR 1L
GET 1E
70 BG
30 BJ
60 BJ
91 BJR
20 BK
80 BL
500 BL
88 BM
H100 BMW
H535 BMW
H715 BMW
H751 BMW
BOB 1N
C1 BOL
90 BOS
200 BOS
BOX 1T
20 BOX
66 BR
A147 BRK
F1 BRO
BRO 1L
500 BS
BUN 1E
CAB 1E
CAB 1L
777 CAD
CAH 1L
CAL 1B
CAL 1V
CAR 1E
CAR 1L
CAS 1E
CAS 1M
A1 CAT
CAV 1T
35 CE
D1 CER
D1 CES
D10 CES
D1 CEY
200 CF
20 CH
CHO 1N
CHV 10T
70 CJM
56 CJS
F1 CKL
35 CM
COF 1E
COV 1N
60 CP
69 CP
75 CP
80 CS
280 CSK
50 CT
60 CT
90 CT
CUL 1S
22 CW
100 CW
20 CWM
B1 CYC
DAV 10N
18 DB
45 DB
66 DC
200 DCB
G1 DDY
200 DE
61 DEA
31 DEC
50 DEE
D1 DEM
DEM 1J
DER 1N
DEV 1N
DEW 1T
21 DJ
100 DJE
80 DL
100 DO
DOD 1E
A1 DOC
A1 DOG
DOG 1E
DON 1E
DOR 1E
25 DR
DRA 1N
50 DRS
D1 DST
91 DWS
77 DV
500 DY
111 EA
38 EB
300 EBS
EBS 500
92 ECU
EDR 1C
66 EE
111 EJ
100 EK
ELA 1N
ELC 1D
ELF 1E
ELL 1E
ELL 1N
30 EMA
EML 1N
EMM 1L
300 EN
F1 END
30 EO
ERV 1N
23 ES
ESK 1E
ESK 50
91 ESP
EST 1R
C2 EYE
100 FA
FAR 1N
FAS 10N
A1 FAY
91 FB
100 FB
30 FE
FEL 1N
17 FEN
FER 1T
F1 FES
FEW 1N
100 FF
B1 FFA
60 FJ
555 FL
F1 LMS
FOR 10N
44 FP
50 FR
FRA 1S
F1 FTH
G1 FTS
FUN 1E
FUS 1A
FUS 10N
100 FY
GAB 1E
B1 GAR
65 GAS
86 GB
40 GC
60 GCC
40 GD
150 GD
60 GE
100 GEM
16 GG
88 GG
40 GJW
147 GL
15 GP
100 GR
GRA 1G
11 GS
55 GS
4 GUN
A6 GUN
F1 GUR
11 GW
B1 HAM
HAP 1E
HAR 10M
HAT 1E
HAW 1K
50 HAW
25 HD
24 HH
444 HH
40 HLS
77 HR
200 HT
A1 HUW
22 HW
F1 HYB
A1 JAD
18 JAN
JAS 1M
20 JAV
21 JAY
91 JC
18 JD
60 JD
JEM 21
A1 JEN
1991 JJ
911 JK
100 JM
45 JMS
A1 JON
D1 JON
70 JP
12 JRG
30 JS
33 JS
JSL 20
55 JSS
32 JSW
222 JSW
88 JT
6 JUL
50 JVC
21 JWT
30 JY
A1 KAN
400 KAS
KAT 1A
50 KAY
9 KEG
A1 KEN
KEY 1N
21 KEY
16 KG
60 KL
12 KLM
100 KN
E1 KON
75 KS
150 KT
600 KT
KUM 1R
75 KWS
110 LA
20 LAD
200 LAD
LAF 1N
H1 LAL
LAM 1N
LAT 1S
100 LBW
F1 LBY
G1 LBY
100 LCW
222 LD
B1 LDA
12 LED
F1 LES
B1 LET
LEW 1N
LEX 1S
B1 LGE
90 LL
G10 LLA
G1 LLN
LLS 25
D1 LLY
92 LN
LOG 1E
LOK 1N
LOL 1E
D1 LON
LOS 55
LOT 1S
B1 LOW
LOW 1E
42 LP
40 LR
75 LR
91 LS
A1 LSH
LSH 50
F1 LTR
LUC 1A
LUN 1E
LUV 1N
40 LUV
21 LVA
50 LW
MAH 1R
MAJ 1C
MAJ 1E
MAJ 1R
MAK 1N
MAL 1N
H1 MAM
MAR 1S
H1 MAT
170 MAX
19 MAY
50 MB
55 MB
111 MCD
MCF 1E
25 MCF
40 MCF
MCG 1B
MCG 1V
MCK 1G
MCK 1M
MCK 1N
15 MCK
MCL 1S
91 MCL
MCN 1D
MCN 1E
MCM 1L
MCN 1S
100 MCN
50 MCP
MCV 1E
MEG 1E
MER 200E
MER 500S
A1 MES
D1 MES
150 MES
MET 1S
25 MJ
39 MJ
70 MJ
33 MLR
15 MO
MOF 1T
A1 MOG
MOH 1T
MOR 1E
300 MOW
100 MOY
25 MR
26 MRS
31 MS
MUD 1R
MUJ 1B
H1 MUM
NAD 1R
F10 NAH
D1 NAN
D1 NAR
NAR 1N
NAS 1A
C1 NDY
NEM 50
NER 1S
G1 NET
C1 NGE
H1 NGE
32 NJ
81 NKS
D1 NAS
111 NN
G1 NNE
81 NOC
NOK 1A
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220 SE Auto Convertible LHD, with leather. Classic investment £14,950. Bournemouth Garage 0202 751770 T

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A very nice man to meet in a jam

Yesterday's multiple crashes on the M40 highlight problems faced in bad weather.

Vaughan Freeman hears some tales of woe

Snow-filled clouds bringing misery to Britain's chilled motorists have their own silver lining for breakdown services and auto accessory shops. The AA and RAC are reporting a sudden rush of new members as motorists stranded in snow, ice and fog have signed up in their hundreds.

Both motoring organisations have been handling record numbers of call outs, which, together with thousands more calls asking for advice on road conditions and weather forecasts, have kept their switchboards busy.

Those drivers smart enough to heed the cold weather forecasts have given motorists' shops such as Halfords all the business they can handle. Sales of anti-freeze, for *example, are 250 per cent higher* than in January.

The Shell petrol forecourt shops report huge sales, higher than their traditionally busiest week of the year just before Christmas.

Peter Rountree is one of the AA's 3,600 patrolmen on duty during Britain's big freeze. When the first snows fell on Thursday last week, he was called from his bed by headquarters at 8am, having returned home from work at 11 pm the previous day.

That Thursday the AA dealt with 26,500 breakdowns, twice the average for a February day. Last weekend they handled 61,000 calls for help. Most of the callers had frozen engines.

Mr Rountree, aged 33, covered the snow-shrouded area of the M11 and M25 between the Dartford tunnel and Saffron Walden, Essex. He went to work wearing silk thermal underwear, *boots with sheepskin liners, heavy* trousers, jumpers, a heavy car coat and an ear-flapped hat.

Information on breakdown calls comes from a mini-fax machine in his patrol van. "The last two winters have been so mild that people have just not put enough antifreeze in their radiators," he says. "The water in the radiator freezes and cannot circulate around the engine, so it overheats.

"My first two call outs were to the M11, where cars had frozen up. I had to tow each one off the motorway. It was too dangerous to work on them on the hard shoulder. Then I had to find a garage with antifreeze and spare hoses. In both cases I was able to get them on their way."

The rest of the day passed in a blur as the fax machine poured out job after job in the sub-zero temperatures. By 4pm the nature of the breakdown changed from frozen engines to flat batteries.

"Around the rush hour I got caught in a huge jam on the M25," Mr Rountree says. "It took me five hours to do about six miles. At one point I was crawling past a car that was all snowed up when this bloke leapt out and banged on my window. He frightened the life out of me. He was so cold that he could barely stand. People can freeze to death in their cars in weather like that.

"In another car, a Metro, the driver had climbed into his sleeping bag, taken off his shoes and was quite happy to settle down for the night."

Mr Rountree's biggest customer that day was a 32-ton articulated truck. *He says: "Stuck in jams like* that, with wipers and lights on, heaters going full blast and the radio on, batteries cannot charge fast enough and suddenly go flat.

"I could not jump-start the lorry from my van, because I have a 12-volt battery and his was a 24-volt set-up, but the traffic was not moving, so I lent him my jump leads and another lorry in the next lane was able to give him a start."

The chaos turned to farce at one point as Mr Rountree tried to tow a Land-Rover with a failed petrol pump to safety. "I had him under tow but my patrol car was slipping on the ice," Mr Rountree says.

"Another patrol car then took me under tow, and a police car *helped, with the officers jumping* up and down on the back of my van trying to give me traction."

By 6pm Mr Rountree's rations of biscuits and sandwiches had run out. However, it was another seven hours before he was able to make it home to Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire.

"In most cases it is too cold to bother people about joining up on the spot," he says. "I am just happy to get them on their way. Years ago I broke down in Scotland and an AA man saved me. He did not ask me to join, but I did later. Perhaps some of the people I have helped in the past week will do the same."

Mr Rountree can also count the overtime and emergency call out bonuses he has earned, while the AA counts the increase in its 7.6 million membership. A patrolman, *however, will not* usually stop to help non-members, unless it is an emergency situation and he is not on his way to rescue a member who has broken down.

At your service: AA patrolman Peter Rountree comes to the aid of Noel Brady in snow-bound Essex

Michael George, the RAC spokesman, says: "That Thursday was the busiest in our 94-year history. We dealt with around 20,000 breakdowns, compared with the 5,000 or 6,000 we would expect on a February day.

"We get a lot of non-members *joining after they have broken* down and one of our patrols has come to their assistance. We really do get a swamp of people joining us after they have broken down, which is perhaps the wrong way for them to do it."

● *AA membership costs from £32.75 for basic roadside help. RAC membership costs from £41 for the basic service, which includes a £10 joining fee.*

WINTER SURVIVAL GUIDE

☐ Top up antifreeze. A 50-50 mix ensures that engines do not freeze.

☐ Switch off lights, heaters and radio before starting.

☐ Clear *all* the car's windows before setting off. Clean lights regularly, especially when roads are salted.

☐ Watch for traffic and weather reports and tune in to local radio for bulletins on road conditions.

☐ In freezing fog, use rear fog lamps and dipped headlights. Drive slowly and keep well back from the car in front. You may need to brake suddenly. Keep a window open to hear better. Stop at service stations to clean windows and lights.

☐ Use a stronger screen-wash solution than normal.

☐ Keep tyres at the recommended pressure to give the best grip.

☐ Always pack a tow rope and jump leads. Keep rugs and coats in the car. If you become stranded you will need them.

☐ Black ice often occurs under trees or bridges or in shaded spots where temperatures are lowest. Drive extra carefully and leave at least twice the normal distance from the car in front.

☐ Finally, if weather is really bad, stay at home. If you must travel, take a shovel and a vacuum flask containing a hot drink.

ROADWISE

Delivering the goods

A LEADING fleet company is appealing for a campaign to stop delivery charges on new cars. Midlands-based Fleet Management Services says the delivery should be included in the list price. Tony Coles, the operations director, claims charges have risen by 80 per cent in four years, and thinks dealers should deliver cars free if they can afford to offer free sunroofs and radios and cheap finance.

Backdated bonus

MORE than 40,000 Renault 19s, sold here since the 1989 launch of the new range, are receiving a backdated anti-corrosion warranty of eight years.

Alpine descent

THE recession is hitting the car accessory market too. Alpine, the electronics company specialising in car sound systems, is offering *reductions of up to £170 on its* compact disc packages. An Alpine 7288 cassette/tuner with six-disc CD changer is £699.95.

Instant bills

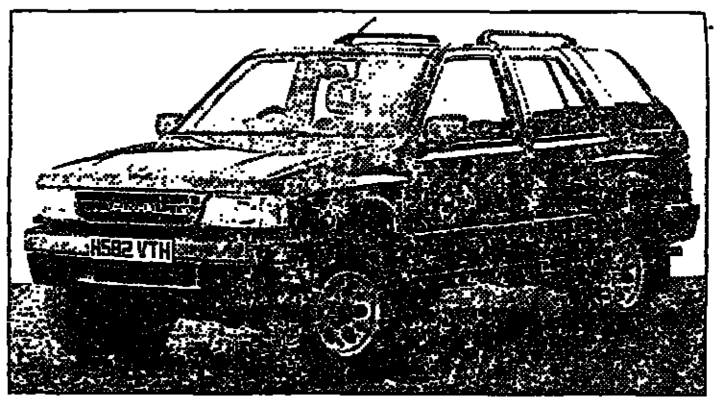
OH DEAR OH DEAR OH DEAR ME. THIS WILL COST YOU, SQUIRE.
Smith

PROBABLY the most used piece of equipment after this week's slithering events is General Accident's new computerised accident and repair system. Laptop computers are being issued to the company's engineers to give instant readouts of repair costs, including parts and labour charges.

Topless at a price

COMING soon, for a few drivers, is the Porsche 944 Turbo Cabriolet. Only 100 right-hand drive models will be made for sale in Britain this spring. The car is powered by a 250bhp, 2.5-litre engine, performance is 0 to 60mph in 5.9 seconds and the top speed is 162mph. This top-down model will cost £45,993. Also going topless is the BMW 318i, but about £17,800 buys the classic 3-series, which has a top speed of 116mph.

Chunky challenger joins the chase



Something completely different from Vauxhall: the Frontera

BRITAIN has a new challenger in *the growing category of 4x4 off-road* vehicles. General Motors, whose Vauxhall subsidiary is buoyant despite the gloom, is producing a chunky, attractively styled vehicle called the Vauxhall Frontera.

The Frontera will be made at the IBC van plant in Luton, Bedfordshire, owned half by Vauxhall and half by Isuzu, also a GM subsidiary. Investment in the project is thought to be at least £100 million.

The Frontera will be significantly different from anything offered before in Britain by Vauxhall. The vehicle will be unveiled next month at the Geneva Motor Show.

Vauxhall will look for Frontera sales in the market sector that has been a happy hunting ground for Japanese manufacturers.

The Frontera will come in two basic models — the two-door, short-wheelbase Sport and the *four-door, long-wheelbase Estate* — and will have three engine variants. The Sport gets a 115hp 2-litre and the Estate a choice between a 125hp 2.4-litre petrol and a 100hp 2.3-litre turbo-charged diesel. Both petrol engines will have catalytic converters.

The prices should be between £14,000 and £18,000 to allow Vauxhall to attract buyers who cannot quite afford a Land-Rover, Range Rover or the recently *launched Discovery, and whose* leisure aspirations fit the shape of the Frontera.

The Japanese milked a market sector that neither the British nor the Continentals had been able to exploit — the small leisure vehicle.

The Frontera has a chance to recapture that ground for a British-made vehicle.

KEVIN EASON

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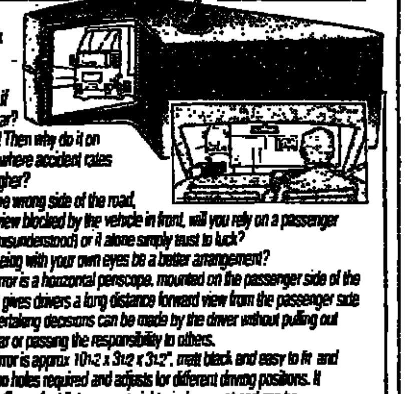

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Tec lifeline aims to help struggling small companies

By Derek Harris

HELP for small businesses struggling to keep afloat in the difficult economic climate is likely to come from the increasing number of training and enterprise councils (Tecs) being established. More than 50 of the 82 Tecs being established around Britain are already running.

The Tec for Hertfordshire has just launched what it calls a business lifeline. Small businesses are offered up to a day of free expert advice on key problems, such as cashflow and business planning.

The lifeline was prompted by research among local companies that showed mounting concern about cashflow arising from slackening business. The study also revealed that only half the companies had received detailed professional advice in running or developing their business.

The Tec has a freephone helpline to deal with initial enquiries on 0800 919 994. Callers may make an appointment to meet an adviser or, in urgent cases, receive advice by telephone.

The new service is for Hertfordshire businesses in their first two to five years with annual turnover of up to £300,000.

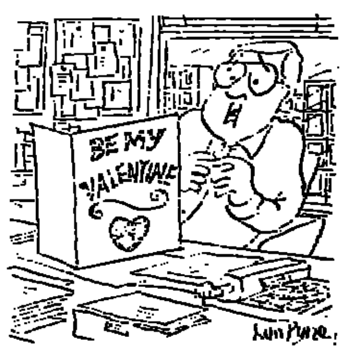
Counselling is provided by a consortium of the county's enterprise agencies at the Tec's expense.

Chris Wright, Hertfordshire Tec's managing director, said: "The Eighties spawned a great number of new businesses in the county, which are already at risk. The business lifeline will offer high-quality professional advice to help small firms survive the pressure of tightening market and economic conditions."

Similar business survival counselling is being studied by Kent Tec, which also expects to use enterprise agencies in the county. It will probably be promoted as a business health check. Enquiries can be made on 0634 844411.

County Durham Tec is also assessing the Hertfordshire experience. Enquiries can be made on 0325 351166.

MR FRIDAY



"It came from an official receiver!"

Bedding down with history

By Brian Collett

FOUR-poster beds made in the last century for settlers in colonial Burma and smuggled across the border into Thailand during the past two years are among the unusual pieces of furniture being sold by Julian Chichester Designs.

Mr Chichester was a jobber with Barclays de Zoete Wedd until September 1988. "I ceased to enjoy the job when the stock market left the floor," he said. Armed with his savings, Mr Chichester went to Thailand and bought furniture, including tables, table bases, old screens, sculptures, and wooden carvings of animals.

On his return, he sold some of them in Portobello Road market in London and took orders for more.

Richard Forwood, who was in the property and antiques markets, joined him for a second trip to Thailand, where they found the four-poster beds on sale.

The beds, made in the 1870s, were designed in the 18th-century style in honey-coloured teak. Members of the Burmese hill tribes had found the beds abandoned when the British moved out, and were selling them to Thais to finance their war against the government. They were smuggling the beds and other antique furniture across the border.

Mr Chichester and Mr Forwood were taken to a crossing point on a river where the beds were set out on mud flats. After striking a deal, they had to carry the beds over the border.

Mr Chichester said: "About 60 per cent were usable. Some were falling to pieces but others looked as if they had never been slept in."

MARC ASPLAND

Burmese four-poster: Julian Chichester, left, and Richard Forwood with one of the imported beds

The dealers brought 50 beds back to London and have sold about 30 of them. They run the business from Mr Forwood's home in Fulham and store the beds, restored and fitted with muslin drapes, at a warehouse in Shepherd's Bush.

The beds sell for between £1,000 and £2,000.

Mr Chichester said: "People like to spend more time in a four-poster. The girls particularly like to lie in them reading, surrounded by the drapes."

Customers for the beds have included Annie Lennox, the Eurythmics singer, Jean Boht, of the television series Bread, Sandy Ratcliff, the former EastEnders actress, and Charlie Watts, the Rolling Stones' drummer.

Mr Chichester said: "The light colour and design of the beds enable them to look in place and be a feature in anything from a Cotswold cottage to a London house."

The supply of four-poster beds from Burma is limited. Julian Chichester Designs is, therefore, diversifying into garden furniture made in a style popular in the 18th and 19th centuries. The company's source will again be the Far East.

BRIEFINGS

☐ LONDON Enterprise Agency (LEntA), one of Britain's oldest enterprise agencies, has brought out a booklet, *Managing Through The Recession*, which looks at the actions small businesses should be taking. The booklet takes the entrepreneur through four stages of action, one of which deals with profit or loss and cash problems. The booklet is free from LEntA at 4 Snow Hill, London, EC1A 2BS, but £1 is required for post and packing. LEntA's number is 071 236 3000.

☐ ANOTHER accelerated growth programme is planned by the Enterprise Training Centre at Newington Causeway in London, with the emphasis on helping businesses survive the recession. Sessions will be held on five weekends from April to June. Sponsorship from Grant Thornton, the Royal Bank of Scotland and Greater London Enterprise has kept the course fee down to £1,750. Further details are available from Elizabeth Poland Smith on 071 403 0300.

☐ THE National Federation of Self-Employed and Small Businesses has protested to the Chancellor about the "strait-jacket" of high interest rates. Tony Miller, the federation's financial affairs director, has asked Norman Lamont for differential interest rates, credit controls, immediate relief for value-added tax on bad debts, mitigation of VAT penalties where there is no loss of tax or where mistakes are by human error, and for unincorporated businesses to have similar tax treatment to companies.

☐ MORE than £30 million will be available during the next three years to help independent companies with up to 500 employees convert innovative ideas into marketable reality. The help comes via Spur (Support for Products Under Research), a new initiative by the trade department. Grants will be for 30 per cent of costs up to £150,000 for products and processes involving a significant technological advance. Details can be obtained on 071 215 5000.

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LEGAL NOTICES

Continued from page 17

BEAUCHAMP COMPUTER SOFTWARE LIMITED
Registered number: 1107044. Nature of business: SUPPLY OF COMPUTER SERVICES AND EQUIPMENT. Trade classification: 36. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 5 FEBRUARY 1991. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND PLC. P R SYKES AND J R HILL, Joint Administrative Receivers (office holder nos 6119 and 5737) of 20 OLD BAILEY LONDON EC4M 7BH

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
LOCKSMART LIMITED
COMPANY NUMBER: 1553296
(ALSO TRADING AS CHARISMA)
Nature of business: Manufacture and Wholesale of Ladies Outwear. Trade Classification: Wholesale of Textiles and Clothing.

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to S46(1) of the said Act, that on 5 February 1991 David Julian Buchler and Ian Peter Phillips were appointed Joint Administrative Receivers of the above Company by Cranehealth Securities Limited.
David Julian Buchler
Joint Administrative Receiver
Office Holder Number 06/3134
Dated 11th day of February 1991

Notice of appointment of liquidator
voluntary winding up
(Members)
Company Number: 1513080
Name of company: BRADPELLDOWN LIMITED
Previous names of company: ANGLO CHEMICAL COMMODITIES LIMITED. PHILIPP BROTHERS (FUTURES) LIMITED. Nature of business: SUGAR TRADING. Type of liquidation: Members. Address of registered office: P.O. BOX 55, 1 SURREY STREET, LONDON WC2R 2NT. Liquidators name and address: MARTIN FISHMAN, 1 SURREY STREET, LONDON WC2R 2NT. Office holder number 6470. Date of appointment: 19 DECEMBER, 1990. By whom appointed: MEMBERS
Date 17.1.91

Notice of Appointment of Administrative Receiver
GATECLUB LTD
Registered number: 1780960. Nature of Business: RESTAURANT MANAGEMENT. Trade classification: 80. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 7 FEBRUARY 1991. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: FENNOSCANDIA BANK LTD
MARTIN FISHMAN AND ANTHONY WILLIAM BRIERLEY. Joint Administrative Receivers (office holder nos 6470 AND 5641). Address: MESSRS ARTHUR ANDERSON & CO., P.O. BOX 55, 1 SURREY STREET, LONDON WC2R 2NT.

Notice of appointment of liquidator
voluntary winding up
(Members)
Company Number: 1090505. Name of Company: SALUSBURY HOUSE LIMITED. Previous names of company (if any): MARKETING SOLUTIONS LIMITED. Nature of business: MARKETING CONSULTANCY AND SALES PROMOTION. Type of liquidation: (Members). Address of registered office: P.O BOX 55, 1 SURREY STREET, LONDON WC2R 2NT. Liquidator name and address: MARTIN FISHMAN, P.O. BOX 55, 1 SURREY STREET, LONDON WC2R 2NT. Office holder numbers: 6470. Date of appointment: 19 DECEMBER 1990. By whom appointed: MEMBERS.
M. FISHMAN, LIQUIDATOR
Date 17.1.91

Notice of appointment of liquidator
voluntary winding up
(Members or Creditors)
Pursuant to section 109 of the Insolvency Act 1986
Company Number: 1847684. Name of company: Tower Promotional Graphics Ltd. Nature of business: Manufacturers of Promotional Print & Goods. Type of Liquidation: Creditors' Voluntary. Address of registered office: Trevitot House, 186-192 High Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 1JQ. Liquidator name and address: Richard Andrew Segal, Trevitot House, 186-192 High Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 1JQ. Office holder number: 002685. Date of appointment: 30th January 1991. By whom appointed: Members & Creditors. R.A. Segal, Liquidator.
Date: 1st February 1991.

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 46 OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
REGISTERED NAME OF COMPANY: STOCKHAWK LIMITED (FORMERLY GREENLEYS RECRUITMENT LTD.)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 1195781
Notice is hereby given that on 4 February 1991, J.A. Talbot and A.W. Brierley of P.O. Box 55, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT were appointed Joint Administrative Receivers of the above company by Midland Bank plc. under the powers conferred in a debenture dated 27 March 1985 containing fixed and floating charges over the assets and undertaking of the company.
Dated 4 day of February 1991
J.A. TALBOT and
A.W. BRIERLY

Notice of appointment of liquidator
voluntary winding up
(Members or Creditors)
Pursuant to section 109 of the Insolvency Act 1986
Company Number: 2246646. Name of company: Elder International Ltd. Nature of business: Distributors of Food Products. Type of Liquidation: Creditors' Voluntary. Address of registered office: Trevitot House, 186-192 High Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 1JQ. Liquidators name and address: Richard Andrew Segal, Trevitot House, 186-192 High Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 1JQ. Office holder numbers 002685. Date of appointment: 1st February 1991. By whom appointed: Members and Creditors.
RA SEGAL, LIQUIDATOR
Date: 4th February 1991

Notice of appointment of liquidator
voluntary winding up
(Members or Creditors)
Pursuant to section 109 of the Insolvency Act 1986
Company Number: 2434496. Name of company: Arrowlevel Ltd T/A JBS Contracts. Nature of business: Carpenters & Joiners. Type of Liquidation: Creditors Voluntary. Address of registered office: Trevitot House, 186-192 High Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 1JQ. Liquidators name and address: Richard Andrew Segal, Trevitot House, 186-192 High Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 1JQ. Office holder number: 002685. Date of appointment: 31st January 1991. By whom appointed: Members and Creditors.
RA SEGAL, LIQUIDATOR
Date: 1st February 1991

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
HEVER CONSTRUCTION LIMITED
WORTH CORNER
TURNERS HILL ROAD
POUND HILL
CRAWLEY
SUSSEX

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at Buchler Phillips & Co, 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF on Wednesday 20 February 1991 at 10.30 am, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 to 101 of the said Act.

A list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at Buchler Phillips & Co, 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF, between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on Monday 18 and Tuesday 19 February 1991.

Creditors wishing to vote at the Meeting must lodge a full statement of account and an informal proof of debt and unless attending in person a proxy at Buchler Phillips & Co, 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF, not later than 12 noon on Tuesday 19 February. Secured creditors must, unless they surrender their security, give particulars of their security and its assessed value if they wish to vote at the Meeting.
By Order of the Board
J. MASON
Director
5 February 1991

RED & GO THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of creditors of the above named company will be held at 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA on 20 February 1991 at 10.30 am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.

Mr Raymond Hocking of Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA, is qualified to act as an Insolvency Practitioner in relation to the above company and will furnish creditors free of charge with such information concerning the company's affairs as is reasonably required.
Dated 12th day of February 1991
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
N.B. PINNINGTON, DIRECTOR

Notice of appointment of Administrative Receiver
SOUTH RIDING ESTATES LIMITED
Registered number: 2120015. Nature of business: Property Developer. Trade classification. 38. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 7 February 1991. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: Bank of Ireland.
Gordon Christopher Horsfield and Roger Marsh. Joint Administrative Receivers, (Office holder nos. 5599/01 and 5925/01). Address: Price Waterhouse, 9 Bond Court, Leeds LS1 2SN.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
BELAIR 2000 U.K. LIMITED
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named company is to be held at 76, New Cavendish Street, London, W1M 7LB on 8 March 1991 at 5.00 p.m. for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.

A list of the names and addresses of the company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at 76 New Cavendish Street, London W1M 7LB between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. as from 6 March 1991.

Proxies to be used at the meeting must be lodged at the registered office of the company situated at 76 New Cavendish Street, London W1M 7LB not later than 12 noon on 7 March 1991.
Dated 30 January 1991
George Adclak
Director

TO: Mr Adrian John Blake
whose last known address was at
Abbey Chase Cottage,
Abbey Chase,
Chertsey,
Surrey.

TAKE NOTICE that a Statutory Demand has been issued by Irish Life Assurance PLC whose registered office is situated at Irish Life Centre, Dublin 1, Ireland and whose principal place of business in England is Irish Life Centre, Victoria Street, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL1 5TF ("the Creditor").

The Creditor demands payment of £68,089.75 which is the balance now due on a judgement of the High Court of Justice Queens Bench Division under action number 1989 I No 9865, dated the 16th day of August 1990, together with interest pursuant to the Judgement Debts (Rate of Interest) Order 1985 from the date of judgement to 12th February 1991.

The Statutory Demand is an important document and it is deemed to have been served on you on the date of the first appearance of this advertisment. You MUST deal with this demand within 21 days of the service upon you or you could be made bankrupt and your property and goods taken away from you. If you are in any doubt as to your position, you should seek advice IMMEDIATELY from a solicitor or your nearest Citizen's Advice Bureau.

The Statutory Demand can be obtained or is available for inspection and collection from Heald Nickinson, 48 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3DS solicitors for the Creditor Tel. No. 071 636 8010 reference GEW/NB.

You have only 21 days from the date of the first appearance of this Advertisement before the Creditor may present a bankruptcy petition.

TO: Mrs Peru Blake
whose last known address was at
Abbey Chase Cottage,
Abbey Chase,
Chertsey,
Surrey.

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THE WHITTINGTON ENTERTAINMENT GROUP LIMITED (In Receivership)
Registered Number: 2276837. Former company name: BITEPAWN LIMITED. Nature of business: Entertainment. Trade classification: Entertainment. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 7th January 1991 and 9th January 1991 respectively. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: National Westminster Bank Plc and 3i plc.
Ipe Jacob and Richard William James Long. Joint Administrative Receivers (office holder nos 002121 and 006059) of Robson Rhodes, 186 City Road, London EC1V 2NU

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified: after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

EILEEN NERITAGE, Deceased. Late of 53 Lowther Road, Brighton. Died 23rd December 1989. Particulars to R.A.C. Symes & Co., 110a High Street, Scunthorpe, S Humberside DN15 6HF before the expiry of two months from the date hereof.

هكذا من الاهل

هكذا من الاصل

Sally's Son can spark double for O'Gorman

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

WHILE Alex Greaves has certainly been the dominant figure overall at Southwell whenever Flat racing has taken place on the Fibresand, it could well be the turn of her arch rival Emma O'Gorman to steal the limelight today by landing a double on **Sally's Son** (3.25) and **Detour** (3.55).

Miss O'Gorman's confidence should also be on a high since she landed a treble on the Equitrack surface at Lingfield last month.

Now Sally's Son, who formed the third leg of that three-timer, is napped to get her off the mark by winning *the Skelton Handicap* over six furlongs.

It was over this trip that her father Bill's five-year-old beat Murmuring on the Surrey track, having finished third behind Glencroft and Patcon over five furlongs on today's course eight days earlier.

That performance was commendable because it was his first race since August, and he missed the break as well.

At home it is Sally's Son's daily task to lead the two-year-olds when they are exercising on Newmarket Heath. The excellent job that he did last year was portrayed by the subsequent successful two-year-old careers of Mac's Imp and Timeless Times.

Now there appears to be a prime opportunity for Sally's Son to make another contribution to his own keep by beating Hansom Lad and Wellsy Lad, who already had victories on the Nottinghamshire track to their credit.

Detour, Miss O'Gorman's *ride for William Haggas in* the following race, the Design Contractors Claiming Stakes, won one of her two races as a two-year-old on this same surface.

After that she triumphed at Goodwood. On her return to Southwell a fortnight ago, she ran well enough in the race won by Will He Or Wont He to suggest that she should be hard to beat today, even though she has a bit to find with Barries Pet.

Well that African Chimes, Miss O'Gorman's ride for her father in the Ollerton Handicap, should go following that short head defeat at the hands of Predictable last month, I feel the concession of more than a stone to **Charly Pharly**.

Alex Greaves has a chance of adding to her impressive tally when she partners **Mighty Glow** in the Pilsley Handicap. Last time out at *Lingfield the same combination* was runner-up to Yesican, who has won again since.

Having run two or his Cheltenham festival horses on the course on Wednesday, the Yorkshire trainer Jimmy Fitzgerald is now taking the *opportunity to loose off* a third — his Triumph Hurdle candidate **Native Mission** — in the Mansfield Chad Maiden Stakes.

On the Flat last year Native Mission was on a par with Taroudant and he could easily be the sharper now.

Blinkered first time

SOUTHWELL: 2.55 Native Mission. 3.55 China Sky, Barries Pet, Comtec Flyer.

Duggan fined £300

JIMMY Duggan was fined £300 at a Jockey Club enquiry yesterday over his riding of Whitwood at Hexham on November 28.

The horse's trainer Chris Bell also appeared before the disciplinary committee at Portman Square but was cleared.

Whitwood was held up and never got into the race when twelfth of 16 in the Linnels Handicap Hurdle at Hexham, but reappeared at Sedgefield on December 11 to win the Nags Head Novices' Handicap Hurdle by ten lengths.

The improvement in form was referred by the local stewards to the Jockey Club, who decided that Duggan was in breach of the rule relating to the running of horses on their merits.

Duggan believed the officials were wide of the mark. He said: "I can't believe it. In 2,500 rides I've never been in trouble, never once had to come here. I'm innocent. The horse was not right on the day at Hexham. He normally pulls your arms out, but he didn't pull at all and he just couldn't get into the race."

JOHN MANNING

Brough Scott (right) in the chair yesterday for a special debate on problems facing the racing industry. Other panel members included (left to right) Lord Hartington, Luca Cumani and Bob Green

Call for tax on punters' losses instead of bets

By Richard Evans

A FUNDAMENTAL change to betting duty involving a tax on punters' losses rather than individual bets could help solve racing's perilous financial state, a British bookmaker and American racetrack operator said yesterday.

Although betting duty is eight per cent, each £100 worth of money lost by punters involves about £450 worth of bets on *which duty equivalent to 37 per* cent on the original £100 is paid, Bob Green said in London.

Green, chairman of Surrey Racing bookmakers and Philadelphia Park racecourse, said British punters paid out an exorbitant and crucifying amount of money to the treasury in what amounted to a luxury tax.

He called on the racing industry and bookmakers to lobby the treasury and persuade ministers to replace the existing eight per cent betting duty with a 25 per cent tax on what punters actually spend — similar to the tax system applying in casinos.

British punters lose approximately £1 billion a year on horses. *Betting duty from racing* is worth about £350 million a year to the treasury.

If the government agreed to the changes in the fiscal structure, bookmakers could give the equivalent of a quarter of the 25 per cent to the racing industry, which would be worth about £65 million — compared to the £40 million currently raised by the levy.

"The betting shop customer is treated differently from anyone else in the country. He is paying between 37 and 40 per cent taxation. You cannot ask a man to pay any more than that."

Green's suggestion, made at a Racing World question time, attended by leading industry figures, was combined with an assertion that the betting shop punter could not be expected to contribute any more money through deductions to racing.

"We are in a situation of diminishing returns and he is exorbitantly over-taxed," Green said.

The radical idea was backed by Michael Snapes, managing director of Corals, and received qualified support from Luca Cumani, the Newmarket trainer.

"It is a creative suggestion. My suspicion is that it is more creative for the bookmakers than the racing industry. Let's make sure if we go down this road we are in a 50-50 partnership which is something the bookmakers and racing have never been in. The bookmakers take it and we pay for it," Cumani said.

The Marquis of Zetland, one of the outspoken critics of the bookmaking system, said: "£60 million-£70million is not enough. It needs to be at least £100 million a year if racing is to survive at all."

The audience, including trainers, owners, breeders and racegoers, voted by a large margin in favour of the Jockey Club executive being extended to include representatives from all racing associations.

Bob McCreery, a leading breeder, said there had been a dramatic lack of leadership from the Jockey Club and although, like most people, he spoke highly of Lord Hartington, the existing senior steward, there was a need for categoric change.

Peter Jones, chairman of the Racehorse Owners' Association, conceded the Jockey Club faced a credibility problem and although Portman Square was displaying a propensity for considerable change at the moment, that could change under a less enlightened leadership in the future.

Cumani suggested the Jockey Club executive should be run more on the lines of a Cabinet with the senior steward acting as prime minister. Apart from its existing departments, the Jockey Club should create new departments to look after finance, breeding, international racing links, economics and racecourse liaison.

Green said the Jockey Club was admirable at administering the rules of the sport and racing's integrity, but was suspect when it turned its attention to commercial aspects of the industry. "They don't understand it. They do not understand things like turnover and diminishing returns."

● Alex Scott's Run For Nick, second at Cagnes on his seasonal debut 12 days ago, attempts to go one better there in today's £5,641 Prix de Castellane over ten furlongs.

New award scheme launched

By Richard Evans

AN AWARD scheme for Europe's top Flat racehorses, similar to the prestigious Eclipse awards in the United States, was launched yesterday by Cartier in conjunction with *Pacemaker Update* magazine.

Starting this year, a Cartier award will be presented to the outstanding European racehorse in eight categories: two-year-old colt, two-year-old filly, three-year-old colt, three-year-old filly, sprinter, stayer, older horse and horse of the year.

In addition, separate awards will be made to the champion Japanese and north American racehorses of the year and the personality who is judged to have made the greatest contribution to European racing or breeding during the past 12 months.

The Cartier awards, which aim to become the ultimate prize for throughbred owners and breeders, will be judged in three different ways with a ballot of *Pacemaker Update* readers, a ballot among a large section of Europe's racing press and an order of merit in each category.

Tim Vigors, Cartier's racing consultant, said yesterday: "The Eclipse awards in America has always been acknowledged as a mark of real excellence in the racehorse and the honour and glory of winning an Eclipse award has lived with the horse and very often with its progeny for a long time.

"We have not got anything like that in Europe, let alone England. That is why we have decided to create an equivalent to the Eclipse awards."

Partial thaw gives hope to Windsor

WINDSOR yesterday held out a tiny ray of hope that Saturday's turf meeting may beat the weather.

After yesterday's inspection, Hugo Bevan, the clerk of the course, said: "There is still snow on the course and parts of it are frozen, but there has been a slight thaw today and the fore*cast is for rain tonight.*

"In order to give the meeting every possible chance of going ahead we'll inspect again tomorrow at noon. There's about a 20 per cent chance of going ahead."

Saturday's other three turf meetings at Chepstow, Nottingham and Newcastle fell by the wayside yesterday as did today's Edinburgh fixture.

Monday's meetings at Fontwell and Wolverhampton, and Tuesday's at Huntingdon and Sedgefield are all in grave doubt.

● With Newcastle abandoned, Channel 4 now hope to show three races live from Leopardstown tomorrow.

Lingfield results

Going: standard

1.55 (2m hdle) 1, ROWLANDSONS GEMS (Mr J Durkan, 5-4 fav); 2, Eastern Evening (Mr J Poulton, 100-1); 3, Its All Over Now (Mr N Bradley, 9-2). ALSO RAN: 11-8 Always Special (5th), 20 Burnt Oats (4th), 100 Lady Magenta, Ribot Star (6th). 7 ran. 3½l, 2¼l, ¾l, 30l, 1l. D Murray Smith at Upper Lambourn. Tote: £2.50; £1.40, £19.10. DF: £19.70. CSF: £47.56.

2.25 (2m 2f hdle) 1, BROUGHTINO (D Murphy, 9-4 fav); 2, Hostess Quickly (M Richards, 9-1); 3, Manolo Del Uterte (J Lower, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 4 Primetta Prince (6th), 9-2 Silver Strings (f), 9 Sheikh's Pet, 14 Fire Lady, 20 Just Great, La Raptotte (f), 50 Gabish (5th), King Of The Clouds (4th), Grand Occasion, Half A Pink Jo. 13 ran. 3l, 3½l, 25l, 4l, 8l. W Musson at Newmarket. Tote: £3.40; £1.60, £3.50, £3.50. DF: £30.70. CSF: £21.74. No bid.

2.55 (2m 6f hdle) 1, DRIVING FORCE (G McCourt, 6-4 fav); 2, Go South (R Dunwoody, 2-1); 3, Lesbet (J Tutte, 11-2). ALSO RAN: 6 Mubsaris (4th), 14 Toraide (pu), 50 Magic Bay (6th), Lasting Memory (5th), 100 Viscount, Tosboard. 9 ran. 5l, 5l, 4l, 25l, 2½l. M McCourt at Wantage. Tote: £2.50; £1.30, £1.10, £2.20. DF: £1.90. CSF: £4.70. Tricast: £10.28.

3.25 (2m 2f hdle) 1, SOUTH SANDS (S Mackey, 10-1); 2, Henfold Lane (M Richards, 50-1); 3, Balmoreclaan (M Perrett, 7-2). ALSO RAN: 9-4 fav Exhaust Man (f), 3 Golden Vintage, 8 Sohail (6th), 10 Hellenic Prince (5th), Buzanchar, 14 Frampton House, 25 Realism (pu), 50 Zamzam (4th). 11 ran. 5l, 2½l, ½l, 5l, 2½l. Mrs J Wonnacott at Tavistock. Tote: £18.50; £10.30, £41.20, £1.00. DF: £102.00. CSF: £305.73. Tricast: £1,811.03.

3.55 (2m 4f hdle) 1, HATAAM (P Barnard, 100-30 fav); 2, Pematum (M Bosley, 5-1); 3, Penlyne's Pride (A Juckes, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 4 Norstock (5th), 5 Strobe Light, 6 Drinny's Double (pu), 12 Lizaway (pu), 16 Final Flutter (6th), Nautical Belle (4th), 20 Santano (pu), 33 Miss Pennywise (f). 11 ran. 2½l, 20l, hd, 15l, dist. E Wheeler at Lambourn. Tote: £5.80; £2.10, £1.50, £2.50. DF: £27.90. CSF: £21.41.

4.25 (2m hdle) 1, TOM CLAPTON (P Scudamore, 8-15 fav; Private Handicapper's top rating); 2, Nodolya (I Shoemark, 25-1); 3, Astra Radiiex (M Perrett, 15-2). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Sum Mede (6th), 12 Grumble (pu), 20 Present Times, Well And Truly (4th), 25 Grey Gypsy (5th), 33 Foot The Bill, 66 Asbeeb, Nothingbutpleasure, Flight Hostess (pu). 12 ran. 10l, 2½l, 3l, 12l, sh hd. M Pipe at Wellington. Tote: £1.80; £1.20, £2.90, £1.40. DF: £22.70. CSF: £17.51.

Placepot: £61.20.

SOUTHWELL

Selections

By Mandarin
1.55 Mighty Glow.
2.25 Cosimo.
2.55 Native Mission.
3.25 SALLY'S SON (nap).
3.55 Detour.
4.25 Charly Pharly.

By Thunderer
1.55 Beau Quest.
2.25 Cosimo.
2.55 Native Mission.
3.25 Sally's Son.
3.55 PAINT THE LILY (nap).
4.25 African Chimes.

By Michael Seely
2.55 Native Mission. 3.25 Sally's Son. 4.25 CHARLY PHARLY (nap).

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.25 CHARLY PHARLY.

Guide to our in-line racecard

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 .... B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

Going: standard **Draw: 5f-1m, low numbers best** **SIS**

1.55 PILSLEY HANDICAP (£2,911: 1m 6f) (18 runners)

1	(8)	0060-23	BEAU QUEST 21 (F) (G Farndon) R Hollinshead 4-9-10	S Perks	98
2	(1)	000-002	MIGHTY GLOW 22J (V,D,F) (Mrs A Rubin) C Tinkler 7-9-8	Alex Greaves (3)	90
3	(3)	420-000	PRINCE ALDO 14 (B) (W Barker) W Barker 4-9-5	S Webster	—
4	(7)	4065-50	WINDY HOWE 14 (E) (Kiroe Group Ltd) Jimmy Fitzgerald 4-9-4	D Smith (5)	87
5	(14)	000434-	KOLINSKY 30J (F,G) (R Papworth) M Chapman 5-9-3	Mick Denaro (7)	89
6	(10)	4/0500-0	WYLAM 16 (Mrs J Wootton) M Tompkins 4-9-1	R Hills	89
7	(15)	04-1152	LAFKADIO 14 (CD) (Black Diamond Racing Plc) M Chapman 4-8-13	D Nicholls	91
8	(17)	614302-	CLWYD LODGE 50J (F) (P Bartley) D Thom 4-8-11	J Quinn	91
9	(6)	00/0005-	QUALITAIR BLAZER 210 (P Bottomley) J Bottomley 4-8-11	A Munro	81
10	(11)	15/0033-	BYWELL LAD 15J (F,S) (Mrs I Evens) R Curtis 6-8-11	M Marshall (5)	91
11	(18)	4002/00-	QUESSARD 50J (F Lee) F Lee 7-8-7	R Lappin	—
12	(13)	40402-6	NOCTURNAL REVERIE 20 (B) (R Quinn) T Naughton 4-8-6	Paul Eddery	● 99
13	(12)	000/	ILEWIN 412 (Dr W Heffernan) J Wharton 4-8-6	J Williams	—
14	(16)	00050/4	ISOBAR 14 (F,G) (A Winstanley) M Chapman 5-8-6	G Baxter	84
15	(9)	6300-34	SPORTING LASS 20 (Roldvale Ltd) P Kelleway 4-8-6	C Rutter	91
16	(2)	0605-00	SUIVEZ MOI 11J (CD,F) (Shadowfax Racing) C Allen 7-8-5	N Gwilliams (5)	94
17	(4)	00000-0	SHARP RUNNER 4J (Miss N Thesiger) D Chapman 4-8-0	S Wood (3)	91
18	(5)	635505-	WINDWARD ARIOM 13J (Mrs A Drury) D Topley 5-7-12	N Kennedy (5)	97

BETTING: 5-1 Beau Quest, 6-1 Mighty Glow, 7-1 Lafkadio, 8-1 Clwyd Lodge, 10-1 Kolinsky, Bywell Lad, 12-1 Windward Ariom, 14-1 Nocturnal Reverie, 16-1 others.

1990: SUIVEZ MOI 5-8-6 R Morse (8-1) C Allen 11 ran

FORM FOCUS BEAU QUEST 7l 3rd of 12 to Steppey Lane over course and distance; previously 2l 2nd to Beduin Prince here (1m 4f) with LAFKADIO 16l 5th. MIGHTY GLOW 3½l 2nd to Yesican at Lingfield (AW, 2m) with SPORTING LASS (4lb worse off) 2¾l 3rd and SUIVEZ MOI a well-beaten 8th.

KOLINSKY 17l 4th of 10 to Erevnon over course and distance; previously 3l 3rd to Hidden over course and distance with LAFKADIO (11lb worse off) 1½l 4th, SUIVEZ MOI 6th and QUESSARD 8th. LAFKADIO 3l 2nd to Steppey Lane over course and distance with ISOBAR (4lb better off) 10l 4th. CLWYD LODGE 2¾l 2nd to Cabochon at Newcastle (2m, soft).

BYWELL LAD refused to race in Towcester hurdle (2m, good); 2¾l 3rd to Gippeswyck Lady at Lingfield (2m, soft) in October; previously 2¾l 3rd to Tongadin at Catterick (1m 5f 180yd, good to soft) with WINDWARD ARIOM (7lb better off) 1¾l 6th after being hampered. SPORTING LASS 4l 4th to Celtic Bob in Lingfield (AW, 1m 4f) maiden with NOCTURNAL REVERIE (same terms) 7½l 5th.

Selection: WINDWARD ARIOM (nap)

2.25 THORESBY CLAIMING STAKES (£2,911: 1m 3f) (13 runners)

1	(8)	220215-	COSIMO 87 (C,G) (Red Lion Turf Club) P Blockley 4-9-3	D Nicholls	● 99
2	(12)	02/414/	TOWNY BOY 387J (B) (S Dorsey) J Jefferson 5-9-0	W Ryan	—
3	(11)	00000-0	GREAT GUSTO 24 (F) (Mrs S Brown) R Holder 5-8-11	J Williams	89
4	(10)	045405-	TYRNIPPY 72 (CD,G,S) (MM Racing (Th'breds)) M Britain 5-8-11	S Maloney (5)	82
5	(2)	4/23121-	MARANDISA 151 (F) (Mrs H Wane) K McCauley 4-8-10	L Charnock	—
6	(7)	010244-	MARGS GIRL 104 (C,F,G) (G Stephenson) T Fairhurst 4-8-8	J Fanning (5)	89
7	(13)	//0208-5	RED PENCIL 21 (Mrs P Tellwright) R Hollinshead 6-8-8	E Husband (7)	92
8	(1)	04352-0	COMEDY RIVER 22J (Group 1 Racing (1989) Ltd) J Spearing 4-8-7	G Hind (3)	92
9	(5)	00800-0	GIVE IN 29 (V,C,S) (Mrs N Macauley) Mrs N Macauley 4-8-7	Alex Greaves (3)	76
10	(4)	030342-	TIMID 157 (A Lomas) M Pipe 4-8-5	R Hills	86
11	(3)	6245-24	HAND PAINTED 14 (Mrs M Baxter) J Pearce 7-8-4	S Dawson	92
12	(9)	00060-0	DIAMOND SINGH 16 (B) (S Pedersen) J Wainwright 4-8-1	G Parkin (7)	—
13	(6)	40-3006	MIA FILLIA 14 (Full Circle Thoroughbreds G Plc) N Tinkler 4-7-11	Kim Tinkler	95

BETTING: 5-2 Cosimo, 5-1 Red Pencil, 7-1 Margs Girl, Hand Painted, 9-1 Comedy River, 12-1 Timid, 14-1 Tyrnippy, Towny Boy, 16-1 others.

1990: BRIGADIERS GLORY 4-8-0 C Rutter (Evens fav) B McMahon 11 ran

FORM FOCUS COSIMO 1¾l 5th to Society Ball here (1m 4f h'cap) with TYRNIPPY 12th and GREAT GUSTO 14th; previously COSIMO beat Mischek 2½l in claimer here (1m 4f). TYRNIPPY 17l 6th to Temperling in handicap over course and distance latest. MARANDISA beat Golden Success 3l at Ballinrobe (1m 2f h'cap, good to firm). MARGS GIRL 9¾l 4th of 9 to Evening Star here (1m h'cap) in November. RED PENCIL 20l 5th to Predictable in handicap here (1m); ¾l 3rd to Touch Above in Beverley handicap (1m 2f, firm) last April. COMEDY RIVER 10l 7th to Super Morning in Lingfield claimer (AW, 1m 2f). TIMID ¾l 2nd to Toda in Leicester (1m 2f, good to firm) claimer in September. HAND PAINTED 3l 4th to Miss Sarajane in claimer here (1m) with MIA FILLIA (3lb better off) 6½l 6th.

Selection: COSIMO

Course specialists

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per cent
W O'Gorman	12	37	32.4
P Makin	5	17	29.4
W Haggas	3	11	27.3
P Kelleway	3	17	17.6
Jimmy Fitzgerald	7	43	16.3
W Haigh	4	25	16.0

JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per cent
Alex Greaves	40	104	38.5
T Sprake	4	12	33.3
Emma O'Gorman	11	42	26.2
D Nicholls	8	39	20.5
J Fanning	5	28	17.9
Mick Denaro	3	19	15.8

2.55 MANSFIELD CHAD MAIDEN STAKES (£2,738: 1m 3f) (16 runners)

1	(7)	000020/	CITY INDEX 21J (V) (The Horizon Partnership) N Smith 5-9-0	T Sprake (5)	—
2	(10)	03/40/0-	IBN NAAS 23J (B Byford) B McMath 5-9-0	B Crossley	—
3	(9)	0946/50-	OUTSTANDING BILL 21J (K Smith) J Jefferson 5-9-0	Dean McKeown	81
4	(14)	9060/43-	RISK FACTOR 260 (M Julien) D Moffatt 5-9-0	J Quinn	82
5	(16)	0032-43	ELHUDHUD 20 (B) (W Blakey) R Stubbs 4-8-11	J Williams	89
6	(2)	35-	NATIVE MISSION 20J (E) (A Budge Ltd) Jimmy Fitzgerald 4-8-11	D Smith (5)	98
7	(11)	/223-	PRIMATICE 17J (B) (R Davis) D Jermy 4-8-11	A Munro	—
8	(4)	63536-	RAW TALENT 28J (D Badham) J Jenkins 4-8-11	—	78
9	(6)	60-	RUNITAGAIN 251 (Langdale Racing Stables) K McCauley 4-8-11	L Charnock	—
10	(8)	26565-4	SCARLET EXPRESS 10 (B) (P Evans (London)) P Kelleway 4-8-11	A Bates (7)	82
11	(12)	8-	STRAIGHT LACED 21J (J Pickard) J Wainwright 4-8-11	G Parkin (7)	82
12	(1)	20-	TAROUDANT 97 (G Farndon) R Hollinshead 4-8-11	S Perks	● 99
13	(13)	0/620-	ADELINE LYNN 25J (Dale (Bloodstock) Ltd) N Tinkler 5-8-9	Kim Tinkler	—
14	(5)		SIOBHAN MARIE 36J (The Kiroe Group Ltd) M Pipe 5-8-9	Paul Eddery	—
15	(15)	45/469-4	TIEMPO 14 (Mrs A Hollest) M Tompkins 5-8-9	R Hills	75
16	(3)	00-	TASMIM 134 (Miss V Foster) P Tulk 4-8-6	W Ryan	81

BETTING: 5-2 Native Mission, 7-2 Taroudant, 6-1 Primatice, 8-1 Elhudhud, 10-1 Adeline Lynn, 12-1 Straight Laced, 14-1 Outstanding Bill, 16-1 Risk Factor, Scarlet Express, 20-1 others.

1990: BUNNYLOCH 6-9-2 B Raymond (12-1) K Ivory 10 ran

FORM FOCUS CITY INDEX, a fair hurdler, 3l 2nd to Peerage at Fairyhouse (7f, good to firm) in August 1989. RISK FACTOR 2¾l 3rd to Nice Mana in Carlisle apprentice race last May (1m, firm).

ELHUDHUD 4l 2nd to Celtic Bob in Lingfield maiden (AW, 1m 4f); previously staying-on 5¾l 4th to Patience Creek in Lingfield handicap (AW, 1m 2f). NATIVE MISSION, a promising novice hurdler, 6¾l 5th to Spode's Blue in Redcar maiden in October (1m 5f 125yd, good to firm) with STRAIGHT LACED 10l 8th.

PRIMATICE bought out of Martin Pipe's stable after Leicester selling hurdle win last month; last Flat run when 4l 3rd to Dara Rose in Saint-Cloud claimer (1m 4f, good) in October.

SCARLET EXPRESS 15l 4th to Chronological in Lingfield (AW, 1m 5f) claimer. TAROUDANT 33½l 8th to Rakeen at Doncaster (1m 2f 50yd, good to soft); previously 1½l 2nd to Spode's Blue at Chester (1m 4f 66yd, heavy). ADELINE LYNN, plating class hurdler, 2l 2nd to Sudel in Clonmel maiden (1m 4f, firm).

Selection: NATIVE MISSION

3.25 SKELTON HANDICAP (£2,347: 6f) (7 runners)

1	(1)	42001-4	YOUNG SHADOWFAX 14 (D,F) (A Irish) C Allen 4-10-0	Mick Denaro (7)	93
2	(2)	806304-	SUPER BENZ 64 (D,F,G,S) (D Bramley) T Fairhurst 5-9-10	J Fanning (5)	96
3	(3)	1223-31	SALLY'S SON 34 (B,D,F) (W O'Gorman) W O'Gorman 5-9-6	Emma O'Gorman (5)	98
4	(7)	00213-2	HANSOM LAD 21 (BF,CD) (Mrs V Haigh) W Haigh 8-9-5	Dean McKeown	98
5	(5)	10100-5	TOPHAMS 21 (CD) (R Topham) R Hollinshead 5-9-3	S Perks	86
6	(4)	1336-56	WELLSY LAD 28 (CD,S) (D Chapman) D Chapman 4-9-2	S Wood (3)	98
7	(6)	041050-	GOLDEN DELLA 92J (G) (Haydock Exhibitions Ltd) D Moffatt 4-8-10	J Quinn	● 99

BETTING: 4-5 Sally's Son, 7-2 Hansom Lad, 6-1 Super Benz, 8-1 Young Shadowfax, 10-1 Tophams, 12-1 Wellsy Lad, 16-1 Golden Della.

1990: SOLOMON'S SONG 4-9-3 R P Elliott (11-2) M Johnston 16 ran

FORM FOCUS YOUNG SHADOWFAX 10½l 4th to Toshiba Comet in handicap over course and distance. SUPER BENZ 3l 4th to Amenable here (7f h'cap).

SALLY'S SON always going well when beating Murmuring 1½l off 5lb lower mark in apprentice handicap at Lingfield (6f); HANSOM LAD ¾l 2nd to Morpick in claimer over course and distance with TOPHAMS (6lb better off) 6l 5th; previously 2l 3rd to Glen Maddie in handicap over course and distance with WELLSY LAD (7lb better off) 3¼l 6th and TOPHAMS 11th.

Selection: HANSOM LAD

3.55 DESIGN CONTRACTORS CLAIMING STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,629: 1m) (10 runners)

1	(6)	00-61	ROBERTY LEA 28 (CD) (D Bowker) T Fairhurst 9-2	J Fanning (5)	81
2	(3)	00R50-	PARLIAMENTARY 101 (M Brittain) M Brittain 8-10	P Sedgwick	82
3	(5)	080-0	CHINA SKY 20 (V) (A Goldson) C Allen 8-7	N Gwilliams (5)	73
4	(1)	00000-	CLASSIC COURT 101 (M Brittain) M Brittain 8-7	S Maloney (5)	80
5	(10)	41100-4	DETOUR 14 (C,F) (T Cheshire) W Haggas 8-6	Emma O'Gorman (5)	● 99
6	(4)		HUSH KATIE (K Moorcroft) J Pearce 8-5	S Dawson	—
7	(9)	4033-1	PAINT THE LILY 21 (CD) (Mrs D Strauss) P Makin 8-4	T Sprake (5)	91
8	(2)	005-2	BARRIES PET 14 (V) (B Schmidt-Bodner) M Tompkins 8-2	R Hills	86
9	(8)	00-65	COMTEC FLYER 14 (B) (P Bottomley) J Bottomley 8-1	A Munro	74
10	(7)	606-	GLOWING MANTLE 158 (N Smith) N Smith 8-1	N Adams	—

BETTING: 5-2 Detour, 7-2 Paint The Lily, 9-2 Roberty Lea, 6-1 Barries Pet, 8-1 Comtec Flyer, 10-1 China Sky, 14-1 others.

1990: TELEGRAPH CALLGIRL 3-7-13 S Maloney (3-1) M Brittain 12 ran

FORM FOCUS ROBERTY LEA made all to beat Gipsy King 2l in maiden over course and distance with COMTEC FLYER (10lb better off) 16½l 6th.

PARLIAMENTARY 16l 8th to Jet Pet in claimer at Hamilton (6f, soft) with CLASSIC COURT (1lb better off) 1l 9th and PAINT THE LILY (same terms) 4l 12th. CHINA SKY 6l 7th to Anchor Inn in Lingfield claimer (1m 2f). PAINT THE LILY beat Tom's Prospect 1½l in claimer over course and distance.

BARRIES PET 3l 2nd to Will He Or Wont He in claimer over course and distance with DETOUR (same terms) 3l 4th and COMTEC FLYER (1lb better off) 12l 5th. GLOWING MANTLE 6th of 14 to Daisy Parker in Roscommon maiden (7f, good).

Selection: BARRIES PET

4.25 OLLERTON HANDICAP (£2,564: 7f) (16 runners)

1	(1)	03021-2	AFRICAN CHIMES 35 (BF) W O'Gorman 4-10-0	Emma O'Gorman (5)	89
2	(4)	042-041	CROSBY 16 (B,CD,F,G,S) (R Tooth) P Kelleway 5-9-11	C Rutter	93
3	(2)	000-300	VINTAGE TYPE 26 (D,F) (E Stockdale) D Chapman 4-9-6	D Nicholls	89
4	(10)	012-522	HARD SELL 16 (E,CD,F) (Jimmy Fitzgerald) Jimmy Fitzgerald 4-9-6	D Smith (5)	93
5	(13)	01-1645	DOULAB'S IMAGE 16 (B,CD) (Claremont Mngmt) J Glover 4-9-6	S D Williams (7)	89
6	(8)	3406-13	DANNY BLANCHFLOWER 14 (CD) (J Evens) M Chapman 4-9-4	Mick Denaro (7)	93
7	(12)	302540-	TULFARRIS 18J (Almand Construction Ltd) D Moffatt 4-9-4	S Perks	87
8	(15)	612004-	COOLULAH 3J (F) (Pipe Scudamore Racing) M Pipe 4-9-2	J Williams	83
9	(6)	430300-	AYODESSA 136 (F) (Mrs B Georgiou) R Thompson 4-8-12	N P Elliott	83
10	(3)	5/00-505	VITE VITE 14 (D,F) (E Robinson) D Morrill 5-8-10	Paul Eddery	87
11	(7)	00C50-1	CHARLY PHARLY 35 (B,CD,S) (F Lee) F Lee 4-8-9	R Lappin	● 99
12	(16)	001600-	MOOR FROLICKING 129 (F,G) (M Evans) T Jones 5-8-9	N Adams	89
13	(11)	00000-5	MISS KNIGHT 21 (CD,G) (Mrs C Bastiman) R Bastiman 4-8-6	H Bastiman (7)	83
14	(5)	6044-01	SILLY'S BROTHER 21 (CD) (J Swinburne) N Bycroft 5-8-5	S Webster	81
15	(14)	50000-0	FAILAND 24 (V,BF,D,F) (J Neville) R Holder 4-8-1	J Quinn	97
16	(9)	000-033	MR CHEEKYCHOPS 16 (D,G) (MM Racing) M Brittain 4-7-12	S Maloney (5)	85

BETTING: 7-2 Charly Pharly, 5-1 Danny Blanchflower, 11-2 African Chimes, Crosby, 10-1 Hard Sell, Silly's Brother, 12-1 Mr Cheekychops, 14-1 others.

1990: FOR NOTHING 5-9-1 T Williams (9-2 jt-fav) J Glover 16 ran

FORM FOCUS AFRICAN CHIMES caught last stride when short head 2nd to Predictable in handicap here (1m) with SILLY'S BROTHER (1lb better off) 7l 7th and VINTAGE TYPE (3lb better off) 3l 8th.

CROSBY beat HARD SELL (4lb better off) 2l in handicap over course and distance with DOULAB'S IMAGE (8lb better off) 6¾l 5th. DANNY BLANCHFLOWER 2¾l 3rd to Miss Sarajane in claimer here (1m) with VITE VITE (5lb better off) 6¾l 5th. COOLULAH 1l 4th to Calvanne Miss in Chepstow handicap (5f, good to firm). CHARLY PHARLY beat Broad Story ¾l in claimer over course and distance.

SILLY'S BROTHER beat HARD SELL (6lb better off) 3½l over course and distance with MISS KNIGHT (11lb better off) 11l 8th. MR CHEEKYCHOPS 4½l 3rd to Shannon Express in handicap here (1m).

Selection: CHARLY PHARLY

GOLF

Norman's quest falls short of his major target

In the second of two articles Mitchell Platts unravels the riddles of Greg Norman, the Australian, whose great gifts have not brought him the major championship he craves

Melbourne

GREG Norman, the Australian sportsman of the 1980s, might also be known as the most enigmatic golfer of his generation. Norman has been No. 1 in the Sony world rankings. He has been No. 1 in the European Order of Merit. And he has been No. 1 on the US Tour. Yet if greatness is measured in major championships, and he himself agrees there is no finer barometer, then Norman's one success in the Open in 1986 pales into insignificance compared with the five of Severiano Ballesteros and the four of Nick Faldo.

Norman, who would by winning a seventh Australian Masters on the Huntingdale course here this week take his worldwide wins to 61, admits it hurts. "I can tell you, very honestly, that I've come home from the Masters and the US Open and I've gone down to the beach and flat cried until two or three o'clock in the morning," he said. "*It shows how much inside I* want those championships."

The one he won at Turnberry was nothing less than he deserved in 1986. It might have been the year of the Norman conquest. He led entering the final round of all four major championships. No golfer, not even Jack Nicklaus, has come that close to achieving the modern day grand slam. Ironically, it was Nicklaus who ended the dream before it began with a record sixth Masters, and his eighteenth major championship, although Norman secured his own fate that spring at Augusta with a pushed four-iron that missed the 18th green.

"Of all the shots I've hit in my life, I would like that one again," Norman said. "I wish I had hit a five-iron."

The best therapy for such a disappointment is to return 12 months later and win. Larry Mize, however, holed a chip of 120 feet at the second extra hole to deny Norman a place in the champions' locker at Augusta National. That shot condemned Norman once again to the solitude of the beach. Since then, Sandy Lyle (1988) and Faldo (1989, 1990) have dominated the Masters.

"I think what Nick Faldo has done with his game has been phenomenal," Norman said. "Everybody had a shot at him. But he has gone out and taken the bull by the horns. I've got a lot of respect and admiration for him."

Norman admits he has not achieved what he wants to and has had to taken a deep look at himself. "I've secured my future financially. But I haven't won a major since 1986 and it bothers me."

So, he has dropped eight events from his schedule, including the two or three he usually plays in Europe.

"The way I see it now I've spent 15 years building the house. Now I've just got to put the roof on it and shut the doors. How long will that take? I don't know. I've given myself ten more years but it will be interesting if nothing happens in the next two years."

Norman admits to having altered his philosophy. "Two years ago I wouldn't have given it a thought. I honestly thought I would just go on forever. Now I'm committing myself to ten years and no more. You do get older. You do change. The kids do grow up. You do get to hate being away."

What is certain is that Norman, who celebrated his 36th birthday last Sunday, will find it no easier. "I feel pressure from the first tee till the last hole," he said. "I think, though, you have to feel pressure because of the pride you have in your game."

Norman has been accused of faltering under pressure. He has, in my judgment, faltered on fewer occasions than he has been the victim of misfortune. Norman, however, is the first to criticise himself when he is palpably beaten, as when Faldo shot 67 to his 76 in the third round of the Open last summer. "That was one of the worst exhibitions of putting I have ever given," he said.

One theory behind him losing his stroke on that occasion, and at other times, is a defect in his right hip with which he was born. Pete Egoscue, a fitness expert, believed this was the case at St Andrews. "He says my putting stance changed because of the hip problem," Norman said. "Pete pointed out I got more open and flatter.

"But I do have a problem with my right hip turning properly and it might explain why the one bad shot I hit all the time is the one to the right." The problem was diagnosed only this year and Norman, who has had an exercise programme designed by Egoscue, says "it probably explains why I wake up some mornings unable to touch my toes".

For Norman, there could be no better examination if in April he is stood in the middle of the 18th fairway at Augusta with a four-iron in his hand and needing a par to win the Masters.

Shearer setting a masterful course

From Mitchell Platts

BOB Shearer enhanced his prospects of winning the Australian Masters with a first round of 68 here on the Huntingdale course, although he would appear more preoccupied nowadays by the thought of designing golf courses.

Indeed, Shearer, aged 42, who won the *Piccadilly Medal* and the Madrid Open on the European Tour in 1975 before switching to the United States circuit, has not even entered the Open Championship at Royal Birkdale in July.

"I shot 69-66 trying to qualify last year and that was not good enough," Shearer said. "I might come over this year, but as a spectator. I've been taking a keen interest in golf course design, although I realise it might take some time to establish myself."

Shearer might not have won since 1986, but he demonstrated how well he can still play by extracting seven birdies from the last 11 holes, which including an inward *half of 30, to share* second place with Peter Senior, one shot behind Michael Clayton.

Whereas Shearer is in the sunset of his career, Clayton and Senior will return to the PGA European Tour this year. Senior hopes that, with a round in which he did not drop a shot, he is on the threshold of recovering the form which helped him to win the European Open at Sunningdale last year.

"I must admit that even though I won I never felt comfortable over the ball in the European Open and the feeling has stayed with me for quite some time," Senior said. "But I have been working hard in recent weeks and I believe that everything is coming right again."

Greg Norman was not at his best in a round of 70, although it still provided him with a good foundation in his attempt to win the title for a record seventh time, but Barry Lane, playing alongside him, struggled to a 77 in the blustery conditions.

LEADING FIRST-ROUND SCORES (Australia unless stated): 67: M Clayton. 68: R Shearer, P Senior. 70: G Norman, G Waite (NZ), P Leonard, G Marsh. 71: J Woodland, M Bradley (US), K Dukes, R Davis, J Morse (US), G Boros (US), A Gilligan, P Delong, R Mackay. 72: S Ginn, S Owen (NZ), M Ferguson, B Ogle, T Power, O Edmond (US), Kyi Hla Han (Burma), P Moloney, I Stanley, R Swanson, P O'Malley, B Hughes, D Mijovic (Can). 73: Z Zorkic, R Picker, N Ratcliffe, K Trimble, C Patton (US), G Turner (NZ), J Evans, M Harwood, E Gonzales (US), L Wastle, C Warren, E Pfister (US), F Nobilo (NZ), B Jones, A Armour (US), T Elliot. Other scores included: 74: I Baker-Finch, W Grady, S Bennett (GB). 77: B Lane (GB). 78: J Rystrom (Sweden).

RUGBY LEAGUE

Reilly loses three from senior squad

THREE enforced changes, were among the problems for Malcolm Reilly, the Great Britain coach, yesterday as he prepared his squad for the return British Coal international between with France at Headingley tomorrow (Keith Macklin writes).

In addition to finding facilities unaffected by the weather on which to train, Reilly learned that the Hull front-row forward, Karl Harrison, Ian Lucas, the Wigan prop, and Les Holliday, the Widnes back-row forward are out of the senior squad.

GREAT BRITAIN: S Hampson (Wigan), P Eastwood (Hull), D Powell (Sheffield), P Loughlin (St Helens), M Offiah (Widnes), G Schofield (Leeds), S Edwards (Wigan), A Dannatt (Hull), L Jackson (Hull), A Platt (Wigan), D Betts (Wigan), K Fairbank (Bradford), E Hanley (Wigan, captain). Substitutes: K Ellis (Warrington), R Eyres (Widnes), St John Ellis (Castleford), R Powell (Leeds). Travelling reserves: N Harmon (Warrington), K England (Castleford), M Aston (Sheffield).

GREAT BRITAIN UNDER-21: G Connolly (St Helens); D Myers (Wigan), C Rudd (Warrington), P Derbyshire (Warrington), A Hunte (St Helens); T Smith (Castleford), B Goulding (Wigan); G Chambers (Warrington), G Southernwood (Castleford), C Richards (Bradford), S McNamara (Hull), G Price (Wakefield), P Clarke (Wigan, captain). Substitutes: T Martyn (Oldham), M Forshaw (Wigan), S Spruce (Widnes), A Burgess (Salford).

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Simon Barnes meets the men who wield power in sport: today, João Havelange

Mr Fifa casts his old eye on the New World

JOÃO HAVELANGE

Position: President of Fifa, the world governing body of football.
Born: Rio de Janiero, May 8 1916.
Career: 1936: competed as a swimmer for Brazil in the Olympic Games at Berlin. 1952: member of Brazilian water polo team for Olympics in Helsinki. 1958: elected president of the Sports Association of Brazil. 1963: elected member of International Olympic Committee. 1974: elected president of Fifa.
Professional career: a Doctor of Laws, he is president of Brazil's national bus company and a director of companies in the insurance world and chemical industries. In 1988 he was advanced as a nominee for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Every so often I try the question: "What is it in sport that gives you must pleasure?" Glory? Beauty? Victory? Poetry? I lobbed it in when I spoke to João Havelange.

"Discipline," he said. "Always discipline. If the players are very *well prepared, very well trained*. I was always that way when I played water polo. A player has an obligation towards the spectator to give his best."

Discipline! Havelange is the president of Fifa, the body that runs football across the world. Football is the most passionate game of them all: the only game in which the weak regularly defeat the mighty on a surge of wild emotion: and Havelange loves the game for its discipline. So which was the best team at the last World Cup?

"Indisuputably," he began — this being rather a favourite word of his; he says *indisputablement* in his measured, disciplined French — "indisputably the most disciplined team at the last World Cup, the most perfect on the ground was the England team."

Indisputablement. Havelange has little time for dispute, for debate. You ask him a question: he will give you an answer. That's it: matter settled. You agree with Havelange or you drop the subject. This is an imposing, not to say intimidating, man.

He is Brazilian and has led Fifa since 1974. Odd to think that 30 years ago, just about all the top jobs in sport were held by the British. The only exception was Avery Brundage, an American who was president of the International Olympic Committee. These days, virtually all of sport's power-brokers are Romance-language speakers: speaking French, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese.

More common ground: they tend to wield enormous personal authority. They are not chairmen of the board, or spokesmen for the committee. They are rulers: they are dictators: nothing less. They tend to get elected and re-elected virtually unopposed. They tend to be old, past retirement age: but unlike other passions, the desire for pure power waxes rather than wanes with advancing years. And they have each presided over the most dramatic rise ever seen in sport's financial and political power. Never before has sport produced such powerful men: men courted by the wealthiest businesses and the most ambitious heads of state in the world.

And football is run by this forbidding 75-year-old former water polo player, a Brazilian who thinks the finest thing in sport is discipline. I am told that he is capable of finely tuned emotional speeches and lachrymose greetings when such are required, but he is no standard-issue Latino. In interview, he chose to offer his most cautious side, pared of all emotions. It was like interviewing Mr Spock.

A *question on, say, the morality* of the game is answered by yet another shoal of figures. How does he feel about the lack of passion for the games in the United States, the place where the next World Cup will be held?

Answer: "First, I would like to say that the last World Cup was shown to 27 billion television viewers. It is already foreseen that the next World Cup will be watched by four billion more. In Italy there were 2.4 million spectators at the grounds: in the United States there will be 2.8. They say we can already expect all the tickets to be sold. There is no other sport even in the United States that can make such an offer. I think we should not worry about the World Cup being a success in the United States."

Havelange's attempt to conquer America is bizarre in the extreme. I mean, why bother? That sets Havelange off on another raft of figures: "Europe is the most interested in football, technically and financially, in 37 countries. Of these, 12 countries can be considered rich. America has 50 states. One can consider them 50 countries — 50 *rich* countries . . . It is a fantastic gain in the development offootball. It will really open a big market for sport."

He continued with a hymn of praise for American prosperity: "We need 12 cities for the World Cup. America produced 33. All have international airports. All have national highways, railroad, first-class hospitals, five-star hotels . . ." Havelange sounded for a moment like a child reporting on a trip to Hamley's toy-shop. I was reminded of a restaurant I visited in Las Vegas: the waiter boasted: "Yes, folks, we throw away more than 50lb of meat every single day." Havelange should eat there.

Havelange's most significant achievements are the huge sponsorships he has brought into Fifa and the World Cup, through companies like Coca-Cola, Phillips and JVC, and his huge expension of the World Cup. He increased participation in the final tournament from 16 to 24 teams: a move which dramatically increased Third World participation and assured Havelange of the loyalty and the votes of Third World nations for years to come.

He was voted in for yet another four-year term as president last year. His championship of the Third World was triumphantly vindicated in the success of the Cameroon team: "They played a very beautiful, technical and disciplined football. They contradicted all criticism of the efforts and the programmes that were made for countries like Cameroon. It showed that we were right. We continue to do everything we can for the Third World. We shall continue the programme of coaching courses and so on. The Africans are making great progress and one day they will be champions of the world."

Perhaps this will happen in 20 years. If so, it would hardly be surprising if Havelange were still running Fifa. I asked him what moral qualities sport possessed: "First, you must love sport. Then you must be well prepared, physically and mentally. Then you must do the job given to you by the coach. Then you must lead a healthy life — I am 75 and I have never smoked. I don't drink. When I did swimming and water polo, I had a lung capacity of seven litres. Today, I still have a capacity of five litres. I walk every day for an hour and cover five kilometres. I do 20 minutes of gymnastics every day. Every day I swim a minimum of 1,000 metres."

Havelange is truly obsessed by the state of his health. I asked him about jingoism at the World Cup: he answered with a story about the doctor who examines his arteries every six months. "So I hope you will feel as my doctor does — not sad that you fail to report something negative to report. You must be pleased to report what is positive."

Havelange is an extremely impressive man. He made absolutely no effort to make a conquest of me: by friendliness, by oratory, or by charm. He simply, with great but unexaggerated courtesy, answered the questions. His self-assurance is like Fort Knox.

He has been talking about improving the scoring rate by introducing bigger goals. He has been talking about splitting the game in four 25-minute quarters to please American television. *Both are subjects a footballing* man could discuss for hours. When asked, Havelange would only say that a commission was looking into these things: a politician's answer if ever there was one. "I do not see any problems for the future, because I work from day to day."

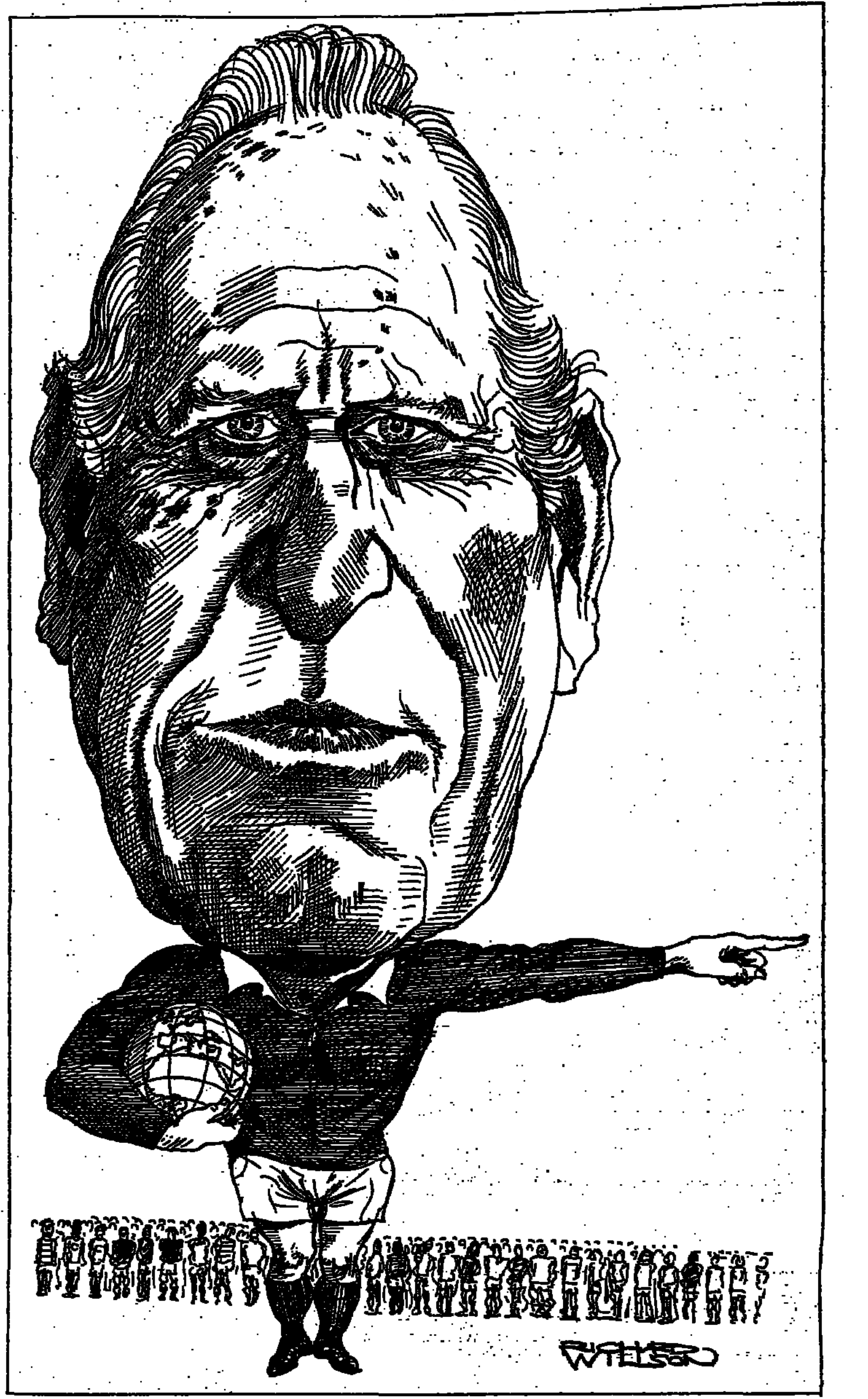
I asked him what mattered to him in sport: "Without a good organisation you cannot produce a good spectacle. That is our strength. We try to put this forward in every competition, and we try to make it perfect for every World Cup. At my age, I have done all the sports you can do. At my age, I have no great passions. I can go to never mind which match, never mind which team, in all tranquillity, without any outside preoccupation. I can watch and have a good time. I am not prejudiced by anything.

"All I wish to do is to continue to serve my family, my business, Fifa and sport. I am happy because of the staff we have at Fifa, because football is well respected and because it is *indisputablement* the No. 1 in the world."

Many have criticised Havelange for what appears to be an overvaluation of the financial rewards sport can bring: toadying to America, being too closely involved in financial dealing with television. Questions along these lines bring the politician's standard answer: "When the day arrives that someone is not criticised, he is about to die." Not exactly a profound moral defence: and a line that all sport's power-brokers are happy to trot out.

Why not? The secret of their position is simple enough: they are pretty well unaccountable. People like Havelange have played their hands so well that no one opposes them. In four years' time, health and arteries willing, Havelange will stand again for re-election. It is not that there is no stopping him: there is simply no opposing him.

Sport's chief charm may be discipline for Havelange. But for him, and for all the other men who rule their game, it has a still more wonderful thing to offer: sport represents one of the modern world's most magnificent vehicles for the undisputed exercise of pure, analloyed, blatant, stark naked power.



ATHLETICS

Boakes could be last hope

From David Powell, athletics correspondent, Turin

WHILE sprinting is the talk of the sport in Britain, with a parade of the world's best, some of them ours, at RAF Cosford on Sunday, there was a sharp reminder here on Wednesday evening that the other area of great British strength is going through a humble time.

It now looks certain that, when it comes to the world indoor championships next month, Britain will not even be represented in the men's 1,500 metres. No Briton has run within five seconds of the indoor qualifying time and Tom Buckner's second place here in 3min 50.67sec, while being the second fastest by a Briton this winter, is only a whisker faster than the season's best mile.

Britain won nine gold medals at the European championships last summer without help from the 1,500 metres. Peter Elliott, fourth then, is unable to take his place in the indoor team because of injury and, unless Mark Kirk, who has the season's fastest of 3:48.71, produces something unexpected in the mile at Cosford, the gap will remain.

Almost the last hope before Britain's team is finalised for the championships, to be held in Seville from March 8 to 10, may be on the one representative picked for the international match in in Paris on February 23. Failing that, perhaps only Johan Boakes, who has been running in the United States, might be asked to spare British ignominy.

Boakes ran a 4:00.18 mile a fortnight ago and one can only hope that the selectors attempt to find out whether he has a qualifying time and is willing.

But chins are up in the men's 60 metres hurdles, 5,000 metres walk and shot, and the women's 200 metres, which were unrepresented when the first names were announced last week. When Frank Dick, the national director of coaching, said "some selections became clear" on Wednesday, he must have been thinking of Nigel Walker, who ran 7.69sec for the hurdles, of Andi Drake, who set a British walk record of 19min 28.20sec, of Paul Edwards, who set a Welsh shot record of 18.82 metres, and of Simmone Jacobs, who ran 23.84sec for 200 metres.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm)		Conditions		Runs to	Weather	+ temp	Last snow
	L	U	Piste	Off/P	resort	(5pm)	°C	fall
AUSTRIA								
Igls	30	70	good	powder	good	fair	-9	12/2
Pistes good but becoming icy on lower slopes								
Mayrhofen	45	85	fair	fair	closed	fair	-2	11/2
Still good skiing in most areas.								
St Anton	50	160	good	powder	good	cloud	-6	13/2
Excellent skiing								
FRANCE								
Chamonix	60	260	good	varied	good	fine	-5	12/2
On piste excellent								
Flaine	84	200	good	powder	good	fine	0	12/2
Good skiing on well pisted slopes								
Les Arcs	120	285	good	powder	good	fine	-6	11/2
Excellent skiing but very cold								
Megeve	85	180	good	powder	good	fine	-4	12/2
Excellent skiing but very cold								
Val d'Isere	110	155	good	varied	fair	fine	-8	10/2
Excellent skiing but very cold								
ITALY								
Courmayeur	150	480	good	varied	—	fair	-6	10/2
Excellent skiing conditions								
SWITZERLAND								
Arosa	80	90	good	moguls	fair	fine	-11	10/2
Good skiing on piste. Ice on lower pistes								
Davos	45	115	good	powder	fair	fine	-9	10/2
Excellent snow above 2,000m								
Gstaad	45	125	good	powder	fair	fine	-5	13/2
Excellent skiing, but cold								
St Moritz	65	115	good	varied	good	fine	-8	10/2
Excellent skiing								
Verbier	30	220	good	powder	icy	fine	-3	12/2
Excellent off piste skiing								
Wengen	38	70	good	powder	good	fine	-3	12/2
Excellent skiing conditions on all slopes								

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper, and art to artificial.

SCOTLAND

Cairngorm: snow level, 1,000ft; vertical runs, 2,000ft. Runs: upper, complete; middle and lower, some snow on hard base. Access roads open; chairlifts and tows, all open. Glenshee: snow level, 1,000ft; vertical runs, 1,500ft. Runs: upper and lower, complete, new snow on hard base. Access roads open; some chairlifts and tows open. Lecht: snow level, 500ft; vertical runs, 700ft. Runs: main, complete; ample beginner. Access roads open; tows open. Aonach Mor: snow level, 2,000ft; vertical runs, 2,000ft. Runs: upper and lower, complete, fresh snow. Access roads open; Gondola, Snowgoose and tows, all open. Glencoe: snow level, 1,000ft; vertical runs, 2,600ft. Runs: upper and lower, complete, new snow, icy. Access roads open; chairlifts open.

Forecast: Cloudy with outbreaks of rain at low levels, falling as snow over the summits. Low cloud bases with extensive hill fog. Winds will be light at first, becoming fresh northerly. Brighter, drier conditions by afternoon. Freezing levels will be generally around 4,000ft. Outlook: Becoming colder with moderate northerly winds and snow showers.

● Information supplied by the Scottish Meteorological Office.

GERMANY	L	U
Berchtesgaden	10	50
Garmisch	10	50
Hindelang	20	50
Oberstdorf	15	180

NORWAY	L	U
Geilo	60	60
Hemsedal	50	50
Hovden	100	100
Lillehammer	100	110
Oslo	60	60
Voss	80	135

ROWING

Lees illness is blow to Cambridge

By Mike Rosewell
Rowing correspondent

MARK Lees, the chief coach to Cambridge University, has been admitted to hospital suffering from pneumonia and, although he is responding well to treatment and is expected out of hospital over the weekend, he will not immediately rejoin his boat race crew.

In his absence, Cambridge's team of assistant coaches will stand in for him. John Marks, the Cambridge University treasurer, said: "Clearly, we are very upset about Mark's illness but we must stress that this is having no adverse effect on Cambridge Univerity boat club's preparations for the boat race.

Lees, aged 32, who went into hospital last weekend, is in his third year as Cambridge coach, his contract ending after this year's boat race. Before joining Cambridge, he was a successful as coach to Nottingham County and London University.

His 1990 Cambridge crew are cast in the role of underdogs, but they have performed well above expectations, and in the recent Cambridge trial eights he was enthusiastic about the stronger pool of talent at his disposal for this year's contest.

● Oriel and Wadham will ask for lenient treatment at an Oxford college captains' meeting this evening. Both colleges were awarded four technical Torpids bumps after rowing at Godstow last weekend, while a safety ban had been imposed by the Oxford University Rowing Club committee.

BOXING

Poor show explained by Barrett

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing correspondent

PAT Barrett's chance of causing even the slightest inconvenience to Julio César Chávez, the double world champion, when they meet in the summer, looked remote on Wednesday night when Barrett retained his European light-welterweight title against Salvatore Nardino, of Italy, at the Grand Hall, Wembley.

He blamed an inept performance, relieved only by a perfect left hook that knocked out Nardino in the sixth round, on the absence of the man he relies on, Brian Hughes, from his corner. Hughes is under suspension by the British Boxing Board of Control.

"*I didn't really feel like fighting*. My mind was with Brian," Barrett said. "It means a lot to me to have him in my corner and he couldn't be there. Brian is all I've got apart from my two sisters. He's done everything for me. *But I knew I had to go* through with the fight because I was determined to keep the title for Brian."

Barrett will be hoping that his world title challenges comes in July, for Hughes is suspended until June 1. No date has been fixed but Barrett's manager, Mickey Duff, who has been in talks with Chávez's people, said the bout could be in May.

"We'll keep active until Chávez says yes," Duff said. "My aim is to keep him busy in the build-up."

Derek Angol, of Camberwell, proved too strong for Dave Garside, of Hartlepool, and added the vacant British title to his Commonwealth crown by stopping Garside in the second round.

HOCKEY

Heineken's support at end

By Sydney Friskin

WHEN the next hockey season is ushered in the league champions and the cup winners of 1990-1 will not be playing for the Heineken Trophy, the sponsors having withdrawn their support of the event which was played at Reading in 1989 and 1990.

Initially, the decision will bite hard into the pockets of the participating clubs, each of which had hitherto received £2,500 to defray some of their expenses in European competition. Houslow have won the trophy on both occasions beating Southgate and Havant.

Paul Vaughan, the sponsorship director of Whitbread, stated: "In the present economic climate we like everybody else had to harden the focus of all our business activities and our sponsorships are no different."

Nevertheless, the economic situation notwithstanding, the feeling is inescapable that the sponsors could have been disappointed at the spectator level (approximately 1,300 last season) measured against the amount spent, which was in the region of £100,000 over two years in the staging and dressing of the event.

However, Stephen Baines, the chief executive of the Hockey Association stated that the event will continue. "It has been a valuable season opener and we are seeking a new sponsor to ensure its continued success," he said.

"It is *difficult* in these hard times to obtain sponsorship but I do not think they will last for ever nor do I believe that the future looks gloomy. We have a good product to sell," he added.

As matters stand the sponsorship contracts for the three main domestic events, the Poundstretcher National League, the Nationwide Anglia Cup, and the Royal Bank National Indoor Club championship will run out at the end of the current season and will have to be renegotiated.

Meanwhile, the Hockey Association will run the European *indoor championship* at Birmingham from February 22-24 without a sponsor unless one is found by the end of the week. "Without a sponsor we are definitely going to lose money," Baines said. "Our main sources of income, however, will be the fee for three hours of television by the BBC spread over three days, gate receipts, perimeter advertising and programme sales."

● Balkisben Singh, a former Olympic player, has replaced Jhaman Lal Sharma as coach of the Indian men's team whose morale and form is at an all-time low after a decade of reversals. India have not won an important tournament since beating a reduced field in the boycott-hit Moscow Olympic Games of 1980.

Ipswich have fresh hopes of medal

By Alix Ramsay

SNOW may not have stopped play, but it has certainly slowed down Ipswich in their attempts to win a *medal* at the women's European clubs indoor championships in Amiens.

Ipswich were hoping to use last week's national indoor finals at Crystal Palace as a fine-tuning exercise before heading for France. But with snow forcing a postponement, it has left them suffering from a distinct lack of match practice.

It had been their plan to take it easy before and after Crystal Palace to keep themselves fresh for Europe. Now, finding themselves fresher than they had hoped, they have had to make do with one hastily rearranged training session on Wednesday night. As one club official put it: "We're not as well prepared as we might be, which means when we get there we'll either be brilliant or awful."

The only good thing to come from the enforced rest is the extra time it has given Sarah Bamfield to recover from injury. Vickey Dixon, the experienced England international, will not complain either at being given a few more days to come back from an injury picked up at the England assessment weekend a fortnight ago.

Ipswich begin their campaign today against Atlético Madrid, who field a squad containing several of the Spanish Under-21 team. On Saturday they take on Amiens, and Ipswich will be looking to pick up a few valuable points in that fixture. They finish their group matches by facing the strongest team in the pool, Groningen, the Dutch champions.

The second pool will also prove anything but easy with the two German sides, Russelsheimer and last year's champions, Brandenburg, standing in the way of Swansea and Glasgow Western.

While Glasgow are one of the most successful sides in Britain, they just missed out on the bonours at last year's championships, losing in the bronze medal play-off. Then it was their corners *and set plays that let* them down, but they are confident that they have learned their lesson and are going into the competition much better prepared this time.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

First choice Gabbard

THE London Monarchs have begun to put together their roster for the inaugural season of the World League of American football, which starts next month (Richard Wetherell writes). The first player selected by the Monarchs in the WLAF draft was Steve Gabbard, and after choosing Theo Adams as their second choice, Billy Hicks, the general manager of the club, said: "Coach Larry Kennan and I are ecstatic about how this worked out."

The draft for offensive linemen is the first of ten taking place in Orlando, Florida during the next two weeks. Gabbard was the tenth pick overall and, because the order is then reversed, Adams was the eleventh.

All of London's top picks have European experience.

Gabbard and Paul Beradelli, the fourth to be recruited, played in the American Bowl in 1989 for the Philadelphia Eagles. Adams went to Berlin last year with the Los Angeles Rams, while Doug Marrone, their third choice, played at Wembley for the Miami Dolphins in 1988.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

7.30 unless stated

FOOTBALL

Barclays League

THIRD DIVISION: Postponed: Southend v Reading.

Fourth division

Cardiff v Gillingham
Northampton v York
Stockport v Torquay

OVENDEN PAPERS COMBINATION: Postponed: Norwich v Millwall.

RUGBY UNION

7.0 unless stated

CLUB MATCHES: Aberavon v Bridgend; Abertillery v Moseley; Boroughmuir v Jed-Forest; Bournemouth v Salisbury (7.30); Cardiff v Bective Rangers (7.15); Gloucester v Newport; Maesteg v London Irish (7.15); Northampton v Coventry; Penarth v Pontypool; Pontypridd v Ebbw Vale; Wasps v Melrose. Cancelled: Newbridge v Bath; Blackheath v Stewarts Mel FP.

RUGBY LEAGUE

SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP: Salford v Batley.

SLALOM LAGER ALLIANCE CHALLENGE CUP: First round: Bradford Northern v Wigan; Hull KR v Bramley; Oldham v Huddersfield; St Helens v Halifax; Sheffield Eagles v Dewsbury; Warrington v Leigh.

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: Midland Bank world indoor championship (Guildhall, Preston).

ICE HOCKEY: Heineken League: Premier division: Durham v Ayr (8.0).

SWIMMING: British grand Prix meeting (Newcastle).

Today's television, page 21

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL

Unhappy season at Yeovil

By Walter Gammie

YEOVIL Town's board meets tonight to elect a chairman and three new directors after its decision this week to vote Gerry Lock out of the position and his subsequent resignation from the board. Geoff House, the vice-chairman, and Alan Bergman, the financial director, also resigned. Lock said: "I was devastated by the board's move; after nine years and taking them from an old stadium to a purpose-built ground." Lock says he has been offered support from a man who will become a director and from a businessman with the finance to enable him to set up a new board.

After the fanfare of the opening of the new Huish Park ground, it has been an unhappy season for Yeovil. The club dismissed Brian Hall, the manager, in October when Yeovil were seventh in the GM Vauxhall Conference. "There was a major problem with bonuses that had not been agreed with players," Lock said.

Since then, the club has slipped to eighteenth place under the player-manager, Clive Whitehead, out of action since a knee operation just after Christmas. "We have had a terrible run of injuries," Lock said.

Peter Morris, the manager of Kettering Town, the Conference leaders, has signed Keith Walwyn, a forward from Carlisle United, Richard Moran, a forward from Birmingham, and Shaun Browne, a utility player from Notts County.

They remain in the hunt for a trebble: still in the Trophy, and the Conference's Bob Lord Trophy, the semi-final draw for which was made this week: Kettering or Welling versus Sutton or Colchester; Barrow or Stafford versus Kidderminster.

Dorchester, of the Beazer Homes League premier division, expect to announce a new manager this weekend after interviewing candidates.

Phil Simpkin, the caretaker manager, saw the side go down 1-0 on Tuesday at home to Trowbridge in the Larchimage Windows Cup quarter-final second leg, and out 5-1 on aggregate. Trowbridge play Waterlooville or Hythe in the semi-finals and Tamworth meet Chelmsford City.

The England non-League international against Wales at Stafford, called off on Tuesday, will be played later in the season, probably in May. The 16-man squad has been retained for the second match, against Italy at Kettering on March 5.

هكذا من الأصل

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Full speed ahead to catch the flying Scotsmen

On the eve of the five nations' championship Rob Andrew, England's most-capped stand-off half, talks of the difference in pace which sets apart international and club rugby union

There is no reason why Scotland should not be made favourites for the Calcutta Cup tomorrow. Look at their record: they snatched the grand slam away from us last season and they had a great summer in New Zealand, being unlucky not to draw the series against the All Blacks, the world champions.

This season they did well in a narrow defeat by a fine-looking French team in Paris in their opening game and scored four tries in their comprehensive defeat of Wales a fortnight ago. We managed only one try when we won 25-6 in Cardiff.

People were praising the Scots to the heavens for their All Blacks style of forward play against the Welsh at Murrayfield and we will be in deep trouble if we allow them to get up any momentum with their highly effective rucks.

They have already achieved one kind of momentum, having played two games in a row in the five nations' championship. They have shaken off the rustiness that all teams experience in their opening game, ironed out the faults that surfaced against the French and put into practice an excellent game plan against the Welsh, often running the ball wider than usual. Their machine seemed well oiled. They certainly looked smoother than we did against the Welsh.

In contrast, the England squad is almost back to square one. It was our turn to sit out the second-round championship matches and the four-week gap is bound to mean there is some rustiness in the system. That, and the loss of squad training we endured because of the weather, will not make life any easier when facing those fired-up Scots.

It is desperately difficult to convey to people just how furious the pace is at international level. Players have to get into a five nations' mode, which is several stages faster than any club game they will ever encounter.

Everything around you is happening at a hundred miles an hour, with decisions being taken on the run all the time. Rarely is there time to stop and think. Anyone making their debut is often bewildered by the frantic activity and the need to react instantly. It is a rare and talented player who can take a first international in his stride.

One of the more strident cries these days is: eliminate errors. It is amazing how one wrong decision taken by a player can ruin an attacking position, turn it into a desperate defensive one and influence the outcome of a game.

Take the grand slam game at Murrayfield last season. We were still well in touch, trailing 9-4 in the second half, and three incidents in the space of a few seconds just about sealed the game for Scotland.

We thought we were on to a good thing when Gavin Hastings kicked straight to touch from a kick-off and we were awarded a scrum in the centre of the field. That turned to disaster when one of our forwards knocked on — two mistakes at international level that should not have happened.

Then Jeffery made the crucial decision to feed Armstrong from a scrum instead of running with the ball. It started a move that brought a try for Tony Stanger and we were 13-4 down, more than two scores adrift.

We dominated the rest of the game in territorial terms but they defended so well with the crowd behind them that we could not find a way through. The clock just ticks away when you are trying to play catch-up rugby and we just could not do it.

But forget that. Tomorrow is the thing. Two players we are going to have to try to put a lot of pressure on are their half backs, Gary Armstrong and Craig Chalmers. We will be aiming to prevent them having the time to control the game. If they win good possession and are given time, they will be *lethal*, as we saw against Wales a fortnight ago.

Remember the exciting skills of Rutherford and Laidlaw? When they went it was thought Scotland would struggle at half back, but this pair came from nowhere two years ago and were good enough in their first season to gain selection for the Lions tour to Australia. They have gone from strength to strength and I am sure that has a lot to do with the skills of Ian McGeechan, the Lions and Scotland coach.

They have fitted into international rugby comfortably. They have looked natural in the surroundings and their games are developing. Both are very good kickers of the ball, both do a lot of work off the ball, covering, tackling . . . and they are developing into playmakers.

Gary is almost a match-winner on his own. He is challenging as a world-class scrum half. He was behind Robert Jones, of Wales, on the Lions tour, but he is now a quality international. Craig was a kicking fly half when he first came into the Scotland side. The Scots' game revolved around winning ball, getting Craig to kick it up in the air and then having the back row, centres and everybody else chasing. And they have certainly got some great chasers.

Over the last 18 months under McGeechan's guidance, though, Craig has developed into a talented runner, who is starting to score tries and whose distribution is improving all the time.

We cannot afford to let this Scotland side get into a rhythm. They have a quick front row and an athletic pair of locks, who all get around the park at speed. And we all know about that marauding back row led by John Jeffery.

Until this season John had Finlay Calder, another inspirational player, alongside him. They were a phenomenal partnership and the Scots will miss Finlay enormously. I can still feel a couple of tackles they made on Will Carling last year when they drove him back over the gain line.

But it is not just those Scottish flank forwards. If a fly half cuts back inside them there are mobile locks and even front-row players up and ready to put you down with a heavy tackle. In the old days the front five would amble from one set-piece to another and hardly ever make a tackle. Now they come at you at all angles and at speed.

In Cardiff, Wales take on Ireland, with both teams opting for even more changes in their line-ups. It should produce a good game, with a close result. Basically, it is start-again time for Wales. They have a much more balanced look to their pack but they have kept that good-looking back division together, bringing in Bridges at scrum half. Robert Jones must have been pretty upset, though, at having been left out after the game against Scotland, when he did not have a lot of chance behind a beaten pack.

The Irish have brought in some talented lads from London Irish and there is a fresh-faced look about the whole outfit. It is sure to be a rousing battle.

With all the excitement and fervour that a five nations' Saturday produces, it is sad that a cloud has been cast over the festivities by this frustrating and unnecessary business over the interpretation of the rule on "communication for reward".

Regulation Four seemed straightforward enough, with Wales and Scotland allowing their players the limited kind of activity the England squad feels we all should be entitled to. The players are not asking for anything different.

The submitting of a photograph for the match programme seemed innocuous enough. With Wales and Scotland officials having agreed to put adverts involving players in their programmes, the squad thought it was on safe ground, especially as the product it was advertising was not rugby-related. There was utter confusion when the RFU turned it down.

None of the players plays rugby to make money; we play because we enjoy it. All we are asking is that we are treated in the same way as other leading players around the world. We were not the ones who introduced the changes in the regulations.

A committee of five (including two England players) has been set up by the RFU to consider the matter until the International Board meeting next month. In the meantime we will be concentrating all our efforts on the remainder of the five nations' championship on the field.

How Neil Warnock is inspiring a long-overdue revival at one of football's oldest clubs

County's good times return

By Peter Ball

EVERY club has bad years; some have bad decades. Notts County has had a bad century. The League's oldest club won the FA Cup in 1894 in its last appearance in the final. The high point in the twentieth century came early, in 1901, when it finished third in the first division. Since then, progress has been largely downhill.

Notts County has spent most of the last 60 years in the lower reaches of the League, supplanted by the upstarts from across the River Trent as the city's premier club even before the arrival of Brian Clough — the gloom occasionally pierced only by the presence of individual stars, like Tommy Lawton and Johnny Sewell, who scored four goals apiece in the club's record League win, 11-1 over Newport County on the way to the third division south championship in 1950.

FA CUP

That began a spell of eight years in the second division, before County fell down to the new fourth division: it was to become a familiar resting place. The seventies were more rewarding under Jimmy Sirrel, but even when Sirrel and Howard Wilkinson took the club into the first division in 1981, it looked more a glorious gesture of defiance against overwhelming odds than a restoration of former glories.

In a decaying stadium, the team won friends with their football, but the cynics were soon justified. It is a cliché to say that Nottingham is not a football city anyway, but the apathy was understandable as the club sank again.

Now, however, with a forward-looking chairman, Derek Pavis, who bought out Jack Dunnett in 1987, there is a buzz about Meadow Lane. County are in the thick of the second division promotion race, and tomorrow, with Forest still still struggling to settle their fourth-round tie, they hold centre stage as they stage one of the most appealing ties of the fifth round, against Manchester City.

"We've been able to spend money on paint, which we struggled for before," Neal Hook, the club's chief executive, said.

"There's been money available to buy players, and we've been able to turn down big offers for players, when we were selling players like mad."

Even the supporters are perking up. With 17,000 tickets already sold, the club is hoping for a 20,000 full-house — "The first since I've been here," Neil Warnock, the manager, said. Warnock was appointed two years ago when County were twentieth in the third division with the shadow of the fourth division looming.

Warnock, like Howard Wilkinson an intense former lower-division winger from Sheffield, arrived from Scarborough, whom he had taken into the fourth division as a part-timer while following his other trade as a chiropodist. He discovered a club "in a bad way". "Confidence was low," he said. "There was no laughter about the place, and they were giving away silly goals."

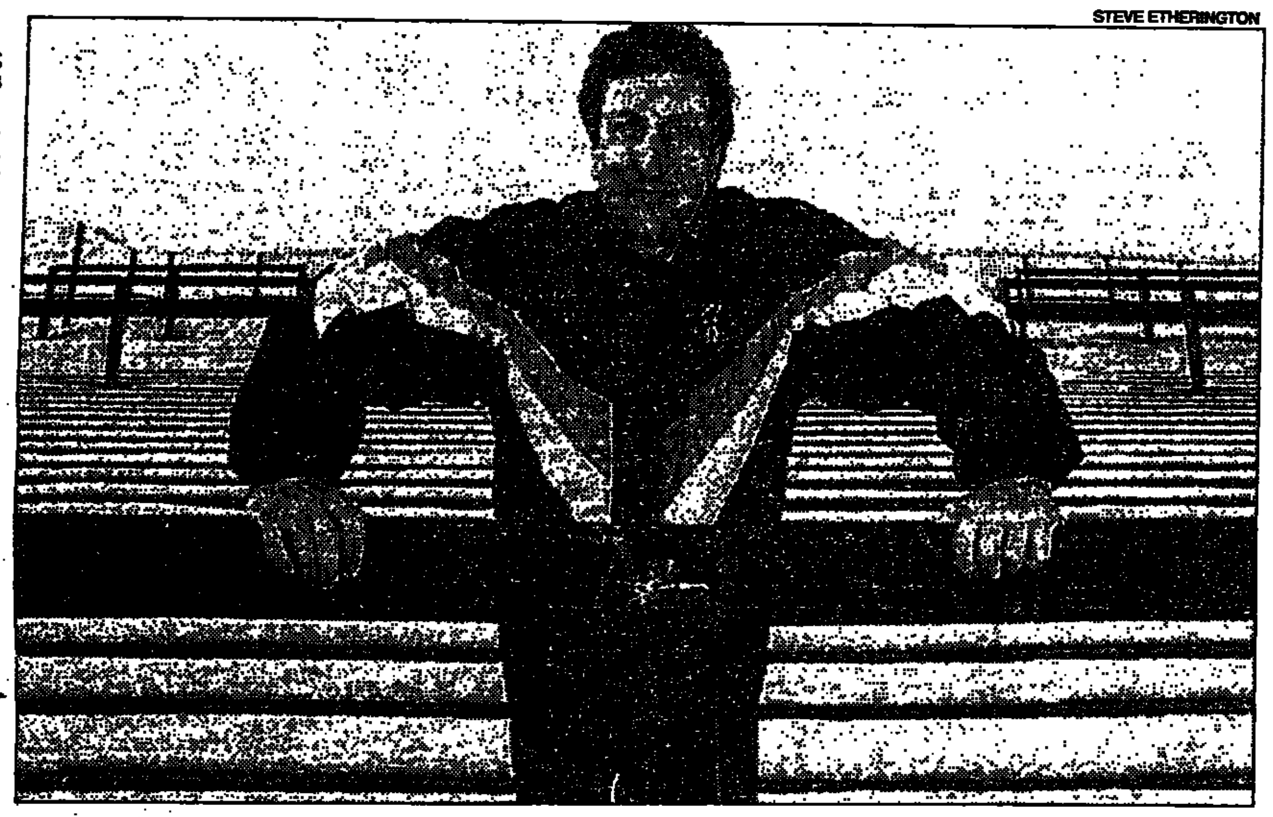
Warnock quickly decided that radical changes were necessary, to tactics and personnel. The style has become more direct, while only one of the players Warnock inherited, the much admired central defender, Dean Yates, has remained a regular, although, with David Regis cup-tied, Gary Lund will play tomorrow.

Craig Short, whom Warnock had originally discovered as a right-winger — "even worse than me, but he had a good engine and he was so willing" — with Pickering Town, followed him from Scarborough to partner Yates. Now Short is equally admired, Warnock turning away enquiries and insisting: "We wouldn't sell him at any price."

Non-league football, for so long Warnock's own stamping ground, has proved to be a fruitful source of players for County: Regis and Paul Harding, a combative midfield player, arrived from Barnet. Others, like Yates, Tommy Johnston and Mark Draper, have come through an increasingly effective youth scheme.

"The chairman is really putting money into the youth system," Warnock said. "We are now going for nine-year-olds and upwards and if we get into the first division this time, that could sustain it, unlike last time when they were having to buy players."

STEVE ETHERINGTON



Managing very nicely: Warnock, the manager guiding Notts County back towards a new era of success

Money to attract families to game

By John Goodbody

FOOTBALL League clubs are to receive £1.2 million in a two-year sponsorship deal of ground improvement grants and cash awards for those clubs doing the most to attract families to the game. The sponsorship by Jewson, a company supplying building materials, is part of the League's drive to attract more families to the game and was welcomed at the launch yesterday by Gary Lineker, the England captain.

"Always in the past football in this country has been a male oriented game but I have noticed this season at Tottenham that more women are coming to matches," he said. Lineker said that when he was playing for Barcelona more families as a group went to matches than was commonplace in England.

Trevor Phillips, the commercial director of the League, said that although fathers had often taken their sons to matches in the past, football had never really attracted whole families. "Over the next ten years we have got to create the environment to attract them." He cited the American football Super Bowl last month in Tampa, Florida, where he estimated that about 40 per cent of the crowd were women.

Each year a special Football League committee will award family enclosure grants to 27 League clubs. The grant package, totalling £350,000 a year, is to be spread across all four divisions and will be specifically used for capital improvements to family enclosure facilities.

Clubs will have until April 22, 1991, to submit their grant application. Five clubs from the first division will receive £20,000 with six clubs from the second division receiving £15,000. Eight clubs from both the third and fourth divisions will be awarded £10,000 apiece.

The Jewson Family Football Awards will begin in August and will be open to every League club. Four awards totalling £75,000 will be made annually.

RUGBY UNION

Time the board stamped down hard on scrum

Gerald Davies

PART of the charm of rugby football may be said to derive from the rather vague, ill-defined nature of much of the play. Interpretation being just about everything, there is room for manouevre and debate. Was it a high tackle, for instance, or was it not? Was it dangerous?

Apart from New Zealand, a great mystery still surrounds what exactly goes on at the ruck. Who obstructs? Who takes players out of the game? Who actually rucks? And quite who is at fault when bodies fall on the wrong side at the point of the tackle, is never open to consistent interpretation.

The lineout is increasingly becoming a mess and what is occurring during the present international season merely confirms the pattern which has characterised the club scene. No referee in the championship so far has established any clarity here other than to let the lineout function as best it can. By and large, the referees appear to be turning a blind eye to many of the illegalities.

Perhaps, the lineout, already congested with too much for the referee to think about or to look for, ought to be a free for all anyway. It is beginning to look that way.

There are those who believed that but for these chin wagging elements, rugby would be a rather dull affair all round. Shortens the winter, they say.

Which is all very well in an amateur game. But with the administrators' antennae focusing more and more on the commercial possibilities and the players chase for cash elsewhere, rugby itself will soon have to grow up if this is the world to which it chooses to belong. When money is the motivation, lines cannot remain indistinct. Doubtful decisions are of no earthly use to the professionals.

To take an example, the area which ought still to gain more attention is the scrum. There are dark secrets here which are the sole preserve of the experts in the front row. Charlie Faulkner has a packed parcel of esoteric detail which this year he is at last imparting to the Welsh team. The name Probyn raises eyebrows at the way he, in his peculiar fashion, tries to cheat gravity among other things.

The scrum is the starkest moment of confrontation in the whole game. There is potential for danger. The tricks of the trade may very well be fine for veterans but they can so easily be imitated, to disastrous results, by impressionable youngsters.

In New Zealand, as David Bishop, who referees tomorrow's match in Cardiff, said recently, there are attempts to de-power the scrum particularly at under-21 level. Since they allow only a metre's movement either way at this level, push over tries are rare if not impossible.

To drop the scrum is a specially delicate area of interpretation. Who does what exactly? Where does the responsibility lie? Whom to penalise? There is a good deal of bluff and double bluff between the respective props so that no referee has a chance of pinpointing the culprit every time.

If there is a minimum of five to form the scrum. The laws should further stipulate the limit on the maximum number of players who are entitled to take part in it and above which no team can go.

Recently, at two separate incidents of scrums near the Newport line, Neath added four and two players respectively to make a total of 12 and 10 to push against their opponents' complement of eight. On both occasions, the scrum collapsed. Les Peard, the referee, eventually awarded two penalty tries.

To allow the manoeuvre to take place does not make any kind of rugby sense. As Bishop said, with the force of the pressure, the inferior half of the scrum simply had no alternative but to go down. For a team to be penalised under these circumstances, according to the laws, is grossly unfair.

Might not the tactic be interpreted as dangerous play and a penalty given in the other direction?

Because above all, said Bishop if the ploy became standard practise the probability of injury under that weight is dramatically increased. The practice has yet to be adopted in any international match. The opportunity should not be allowed to arise.

First for semi-finals

BOTH of the Schweppes Cup semi-finals will be played back to back at Cardiff Arms Park, on Sunday, April 7. It will be the first time the semi-finals have been played on a Sunday and follows on from playing one of the games at the national stadium over the last two seasons.

Llanelli played Newbridge there two seasons ago and last year, Neath beat Swansea. The final is on May 4.

Meanwhile, Bath have rejected Gloucester's move to play their postponed Courage League first division match at Kingsholm on Saturday week, February 23. It will now be played on April 6 — by which time Bath may have clinched the league title.

The game, originally scheduled for last Saturday, was called off because of the snow. Gloucester arranged the new date, cancelling a scheduled match with London Irish, but although Bath officials were happy with February 23, some international players were not.

"Apparently the players felt it was asking a bit much of them to sandwich such a big league game between two international Saturdays," Terry Tandy, the Gloucester secretary, said.

IN BRIEF

Klimova accused

MARINA Klimova, the Soviet skater who is accused of using anabolic steroids when she won the European ice dance title with her husband, Sergei Ponomarenko, in Sofia last month, faces further allegations of drugs use.

Dr Emil Milochov, who tested urine samples at the championships, told the newspaper, *Vecherni Novini*, yesterday that Klimova's test revealed not only steroids but also traces of diuretics.

- Midori Ito, who won the 1989 women's world title, may miss the 1991 championships in Munich next month because of training time lost because of jaw surgery.

CROSS COUNTRY: Britain's teams to compete in the world championships in Antwerp next month will be decided by selection and without trial races.

NORDIC SKIING: Elena Vialbe, of the Soviet Union, won her third gold medal of the world championships in Val de Fiemme, Italy, yesterday, when she anchored her team

YACHTING: The French solo sailor, Isabelle Autissier, set a record speed of 19.6 knots yesterday as the BOC round the world race fleet headed down into the Screaming Sixties.

TENNIS: Boris Becker, the world No. 1, was taken to two tie-breaks against his Davis Cup colleague, Eric Jelen, but won both to reach the third round of the Donnay International in Brussels yesterday.

CRICKET

Ilott ready for quick entry into the attack

From Richard Streeton in Colombo

MARK Ilott, the Essex left-arm seam bowler, who joined the tour as a replacement only last weekend, was included yesterday in the 13 England A announced for the second unofficial Test match with Sri Lanka A that starts here today.

Ilott, aged 20, would add variety to the England attack and must be a strong candidate to play.

There was more grass than usual in this country on the Singhalese Sports Club (SSC) ground yesterday, though whether it remains there by the start remains to be seen. From the Sri Lankans the word came that they were prepared to play three seamers and only two spinners if the pitch looked likely to have any pace in it.

What does seem certain, however, is that the pitch will not help spin bowling from the start as happened at Kandy in the first Test. Locally it is regarded as a high-scoring ground. England, though remain on their guard. They have yet to start a match in Sri Lanka when the pitch has not been wet from excessive watering.

Bob Bennett, the tour manager, confirmed that the England team would again comprise six batsmen, Rhodes, the wicketkeeper and only four specialist bowlers, with Ramprakash to help out with off-spin. It would be a big surprise if three seamers and the dependable left-arm bowling of Illingworth did not once more form the England attack.

Sri Lanka appear unlikely to detract from the trumps they hold by weakening their quota of spin.

ENGLAND (from): H Morris (capt), D J Bicknell, M R Ramprakash, N H Fairbrother, N Hussain, G P Thorpe, S J Rhodes, P J Newport, R K Illingworth, R A Pick, M C Ilott, I D K Salisbury and T A Munton.

Crawley leads revival

THE England Under-19s captain, John Crawley, made an unbeaten 74 to lead a recovery against New Zealand in the second youth Test at New Plymouth yesterday.

Crawley and Toby Radford shared an unbroken second-wicket stand of 121 after England had lost their opening batsman, Ben Smith, with seven runs on the board in reply to New Zealand's 343 for nine declared. Radford, who looked vulnerable to the quick bowlers early on, was 43 not out at the close.

SCORES: New Zealand Under-19s 343-9 dec (S Blackmore 94, J Furlong 52 not out); England Under-19s 128-1 (J P Crawley 74 not out).

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

MADRID: International meeting: Winners: Men: 60m: L Burrell (US), 6.48sec (world record). 60m hurdles: G Foster (US), 7.48. 400m: D Everett (US), 47.38. 1,000m: W Tanui (Ken), 2min 22.84sec. 3,000m: D Kibet (Ken), 7:55.21. Women: 60m: M Ottey (Jam), 7.12sec. 60m hurdles: L Narozhilenko (USSR), 7.88. 1,000m: 1, S Grau-Wodars (Ger), 2min 44.34sec.

BERLIN: Indoor track and field meeting: Winners: Men: 50m: S Floyd (US), 5.77sec. 50m hurdles: M McKoy (Can), 6.42. Mile: H Fuhlbruegge (Ger), 4min 07.06sec. 3,000m: T Herwig (Ger), 8:07.23. Triple jump: V Melichov (USSR), 16.96 metres. Shot: W Guenthoer (Switz), 21.49. Women: 50m: K Krabbe (Ger), 6.15sec. 50m hurdles: G Siebert (Ger), 6.95. 1,000m: T Chidu (Rom), 2min 42.31sec. 3,000m: M P Duros (Fr), 8:53.84. High jump: H Balck (Ger), 1.93 metres. Long jump: H Drechsler (Ger), 7.08.

FOOTBALL

FRENCH LEAGUE: Marseilles 1, Toulouse 0; Monaco 2, Nice 1; Montpellier 1, Rennes 0; Bordeaux 1, Cannes 1; Caen 2, Paris St Germain 0.

Late results on Wednesday

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Italy 0, Belgium 0 (in Terni).

HFS LOANS LEAGUE CUP: Fourth round: Witton 0, Southport 0 (abandoned at half-time — frost). Premier division: Postponed: South Liverpool v Chorley.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Postponed: Cambridge City v Wealdstone; Poole v VS Rugby. Midland division: Postponed: Sutton Coldfield v Stroud. Southern division: Postponed: Hythe v Ashford.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Everton 4, Huddersfield 0; Leeds 2, Sunderland 1. Postponed: Nottingham Forest v Wolverhampton Wanderers; Rotherham v Derby. Second division: Oldham 4, Scunthorpe 0. Postponed: Grimsby v Middlesbrough; Notts County v Barnsley; Port Vale v Burnley; West Bromwich Albion v Preston.

VAUXHALL LEAGUE: Second division: Postponed: Edgware v Tring.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Saltash 4, Ottery St Mary 0. Postponed: Plymouth Argyle v Chard.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Postponed: Thetford v Lowestoft.

CRESTA RUN

ARIS VATTISSELLA CHALLENGE CUP: 1, P Michel (Cz), 1min 55.66sec; 2, D Zach (Ger), 1:55.83; 3, M Gimlette (GB), 1:57.59; 4, J Sunley (GB), 1:57.83; 5, A Boyd-Gibbins (GB), 1:57.98; 6, E Hotz (Cz), 1:58.83.

TENNIS

BRUSSELS: Men's indoor tournament: First round: B Becker (Ger) bt A Volkov (USSR), 6-4, 3-6, 6-3; C Saceanu (Ger) bt A Agassi (US), 6-3, 7-6. Second round: A Chesnokov (USSR) bt G Prpic (Yug), 6-4, 7-6; J Hlasek (Switz) bt M Wilander (Swe), 6-1, 7-5; Becker bt E Jelen (Ger), 7-6, 7-6.

PHILADELPHIA: US indoor men's championship: Second round: M Washington (US) bt P McEnroe (US), 6-0, 6-3; M Stich (Ger) bt C Caratti (It), 6-2, 6-4; I Lendl (Cz) bt G Raoux (Fr), 6-1, 7-5; P Haarhuis (Neth) bt U Riglewski (Ger), 6-1, 6-3; J McEnroe (US) bt A Mronz (Ger), 6-1, 6-2. Third round: P Korda (Cz) bt W Ferreira (SA), 7-5, 7-6; A Rahunen (Fin) bt J Grabb (US), 5-7, 6-1, 6-2; K Curren (US) bt D Cahill (Aus), 6-7, 6-3, 7-6; B Gilbert (US) bt T Carbonell (Sp), 6-3, 6-3.

CHICAGO: Women's tournament: First round: B Schultz (Neth) bt C Lindqvist (Swe), 7-6, 6-3. Second round: A Smith (US) bt N Tauziat (Fr), 3-6, 7-6, 6-3; K Maleeva (Bul) bt A Grossman (US), 6-3, 6-1; H Kelesi (Can) bt J Novotna (Cz), 2-6, 7-6, 7-6; J Capriati (US) bt T Whitlinger (US), 6-4, 6-1; M Navratilova (US) bt P Shriver (US), 7-6, 6-1.

LINZ, Austria: Women's tournament: First round: D Monami (Bel) bt L Golarsa (It), 6-1, 6-1; E Maniokova (USSR) bt C Tanvier (Fr), 7-5, 2-6, 6-1; C Kohde-Kilsch (Ger) bt S Testud (Fr), 6-1, 7-5; R Reggi (It) bt N Reinstadler (Austria), 7-6, 6-4; P Ritter (Austria) bt P Etchemendy (Fr), 6-3, 7-6. Second round: M Maleeva-Fragniere (Switz) bt P Thoren (Fin), 6-1, 6-3; P Langrova (Cz) bt R Zrubakova (Cz), 6-3, 6-1; Maniokova bt S Meier (Ger), 6-4, 1-6, 6-4; P Paradis (Fr) bt Monami, 6-3, 7-5, Reggi bt P Vasquez (Peru), 6-1, 6-1; R Rajchrtova (Cz) bt C Cohen (Switz), 6-1, 6-0.

AURORA, Colorado: Women's tournament: Second round: M Bollegraf (Neth) bt A Keller (US), 6-1, 6-0; C Cunningham (US) bt A Minter (Aus), 6-2, 5-7, 6-1; H Cioffi (US) bt M Javer (GB), 3-6, 6-4, 6-0; P Fendick (US) bt S Collins (US), 6-3, 6-4.

YACHTING

PERTH: IYRU Australia Cup: Round-robin elimination stage: Fourth race: R Davis (NZ) bt L Mead (HK); B Pace (Fr) bt R Coutts (NZ); C Law (GB) bt J Holder (Aus); G Lucas (Aus) bt J Bank (Den). P Gilmour (Aus) bt T Pepponet (Fr). Fifth round: Lucas bt Mead; Pace bt Gilmour; Coutts bt Bank; Holder bt Peponnet; Davis bt Law. Sixth round: Coutts bt Peponnet; Gilmour bt Law; Davis bt Pace; Bank bt Mead; Lucas bt Holder.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Buffalo Sabres 6, Minnesota North Stars 5 (OT); Hartford Whalers 6, Detroit Red Wings 2; Boston Bruins 7, Montreal Canadiens 4; New York Rangers 6, New Jersey Devils 3; Philadelphia Flyers 6, Toronto Maple Leafs 3.

HEINEKEN LEAGUE: First division: Slough Jets 11, Medway Bears 4.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Cleveland Cavaliers 95, Dallas Mavericks 93; Indiana Pacers 105, Detroit Pistons 101; New Jersey Nets 140, Atlanta Hawks 109; Los Angeles Lakers 120, Minnesota Timberwolves 106.

CARLSBERG LEAGUE: First division: Men: Thames Valley Tigers 120, Kodak Hemel Hempstead Royals 86.

KORAC CUP: Quarter-final: Second leg: Estudiantes Madrid 76, Joventut Badalona (Sp) 83. Joventut win 156-155 on aggregate.

BOWLS

CARDIFF: Welsh women's indoor championships: Finals: Singles: R Jones (Merthyr Tydfil) bt M Jones (Merthyr Tydfil), 21-14. Pairs: S Britton and S Froud (Vale of Glamorgan) bt J Evans and V Howell (Merthyr Tydfil), 22-16. Triples: D Cooper, P Czarnecki and L Nicholas (Merthyr Tydfil) bt M Bosher, J Howells and J Ricketts (Torfaen), 19-9. Fours: D Cooper, A Mullins, P Czarnecki and R Jones (Merthyr Tydfil) bt A Sutherland, B Thomas, M Day and P Dickenson (Torfaen), 20-19.

CRICKET

KINGSTON: Geddes Grant Trophy: Final: Leeward Islands 228-8 in 50 overs (I V A Richards 88, R Richardson 57), Jamaica 232-6 in 49.5 overs (R Samuels 77, D Morgan 63).

KARACHI: Quaid-i-Azam Trophy: Final: Karachi Whites 399 (Asif Mujtaba 193, Iqbal Sikandar 58, Moin Khan 52), Bahawalpur 83 (Ather Laeeq 4-36, Aamer Hanif 3-5) and 152 (Iqbal Sikandar 4-16, Jawed Ali 3-13). Karachi Whites win by an innings and 164 runs.

TOUR MATCH: Club Cricket Conference 198 (G Loveday 67), Melbourne 29ers 172-8. Club Cricket Conference won by 26 runs.

CYCLING

TOUR OF THE MEDITERRANEAN: Third stage (Arles to Vitrolles, 55 miles): 1, L Roosen (Bel), 2hr 11min 36sec; 2, M Vermotte (Bel), at 5sec; 3, W Peeters (Bel); 4, J Dauwe (Bel); 5, L Jalabert (Fr); 6, D Hauer (Austria). Fourth stage (14km time trial in Marignane): 1, J Nijdam (Neth), 15min 42sec; 2, A Rominger (Switz), at 15sec; 3, J Gorospe (Sp), 18; 4, V Ekimov (USSR), 21; 5, T Wegmueller (Switz), 23; 6, D Jdanov (USSR), 28. Overall: 1, Rominger, 8hr 29min 03sec; 2, Gorospe, at 3sec; 3, Ekimov, 8; 4, Wegmueller, 8; 5, Jdanov, 12; 6, L Fignon (Fr), same time.

RUGBY LEAGUE

SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP: First round: Postponed: Halifax v Fulham.

SNOOKER

NEWPORT: Welsh championship: Semi-final: D Morgan bt W Jones, 9-8.

BOWLS

Welsh in harmony

YESTERDAY saw the start of the Midland Bank world indoor pairs championship at the Preston Guild Hall, where some players not only had to learn a new game but had to get to know a new partner (David Rhys Jones writes).

Brian Baldwin, from New Zealand, and Mark McMahon, from Hong Kong, for example, had never met before. On the other hand, John Price, the world indoor singles champion, and Steve Rees — club colleagues at Swansea — have teamed up for these championships every year since they were first held in 1986 and have mastered the two-bowl format.

The match was level at two sets all after two hours but, in the decider, the Welsh led 3-1. McMahon trailed the jack for a full house, and appeared to have delivered the *coup de grace*, but two to Wales on the next end tied the set at 5-5.

Baldwin earned a single on the next end, Price killed the seventh, and Wales took a winning double on the replay.

RESULTS: First round: D Corkill and J McMullan (Ire) bt C Lewis and J Downey (Wales), 6-7, 4-7, 7-1, 7-0, 7-2; R Brassey and M Symes (NZ) bt T Scott and D Webb (Eng), 7-3, 5-7, 0-7, 7-1, 7-5. S Rees and J Price (Wales) bt B Baldwin (NZ) and M McMahon (HK), 7-4, 7-5, 3-7, 1-7, 7-8;

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SPORT

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FA may consult supporters on football's future

By STUART JONES, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

FOOTBALL supporters may for the first time be asked for their views on the way in which the game should be developed. The idea, long overdue, will be included among the proposals in a revised blueprint to be promoted by the Football Association at the end of the season.

Graham Kelly, the chief executive of the FA, who released details of the original document two months ago, yesterday suggested that representatives of supporters should be regularly consulted by a new and potentially highly influential body. It is called, for the sake of convenience, the central planning policy unit.

It could represent a bridge over the gap which still divides the FA and the League. Although both parties have publicly agreed that they should form a joint executive board to run the game, they are likely to continue their unseemly squabble over who should hold the balance of power.

The League insists that it should have an equal number of members on the board. The FA, which is to discuss the matter on April 8, has a more convincing argument. It is as adamant that it should have a bigger say because its responsibility is far greater and more widespread.

"Irrespective of whatever board is eventually formed," Kelly said, "it will benefit from the establishment of a central planning policy unit. It would be able to advise the board on the best course of action to take. It would shape the framework of future policies and oversee the implementation of the blueprint.

"It would consult on a regular basis all of the relevant groups, such as the managers, the Professional Footballers' Association, the referees, the Vauxhall Conference League and, last but by no means least, the supporters. That would be one way of bringing them into the fold."

Although the unit would have no direct legislative muscle, its power could be profound. It was significant that Kelly indicated that he sees himself assisting his own think-tank rather than any joint board.

Co-ordination will be the central theme of the FA's blueprint. Kelly is concerned that clubs are spending millions of pounds on improving stadiums, "and they are doing a good job, but it is all on a piecemeal, ad hoc basis. There is no national over-view".

The subject is particularly topical in view of England's bid to stage the World Cup finals in 1998. Fifa, the game's governing body, is expected to demand that the hosts should have eight grounds which can accommodate between 30,000 and 40,000 spectators, and two arenas which can hold between 60,000 and 80,000.

"Look at north London," Kelly said. "In terms of the World Cup, Highbury is not in the right place. Parking and access is difficult. The problems of Tottenham Hotspur have been well publicised and for all the money which has been spent on Wembley, it wouldn't be easy to get to.

"I doubt whether 80,000 people will ever be seated comfortably there. It isn't purpose-built. There should be some degree of co-ordination, since we are trying to modernise the game, and I would like to know the reasons why the clubs should not share a ground."

The propsed building of a new national stadium in Birmingham, which would help to meet Fifa's requirements, has been "put to one side for the moment".

Kelly is already assured of acting as an adviser on a grander scale. He has accepted an invitation to join Fifa's "work force", a small group including Michel Platini among others, which is to consider ways in which the game could be brightened.

Kelly will vehemently dismiss suggestions, such as widening the goals, and support more practical ideas. He believes that professional fouls committed outside the penalty area, for instance, could be punished either by a penalty or by a direct free kick, with all players standing at least five yards behind the ball.

Such measures would inevitably increase the confusion of referees. He rejected a more simple suggestion: why, when a free kick has been awarded, is the offending side allowed to buy time by standing over the ball or, even more infuriatingly, moving it away? He said that the matter would only be discussed this year, but no further action will be taken over conduct which amounts to cheating. In that case, he can scarcely be surprised that clubs should be reluctant to consider far more revolutionary ideas, such as sharing grounds.

Men of power, page 36
Warnock's revival, page 37

Adams soon back in action

By CLIVE WHITE

TONY Adams, the Arsenal and England central defender who is expected to be released from Chelmsford prison today, will recommence his football career tomorrow.

Reading have agreed to a request from Arsenal to switch their Football Combination fixture from Elm Park, where the pitch is unplayable, to Highbury, enabling Adams to get in some much-needed practice. Highbury has the benefit of undersoil heating.

Adams has not kicked a football with purpose since he was sentenced on December 19 to nine months' imprisonment, with five months suspended, for a drink-driving offence. George Graham, the Arsenal manager, estimated that Adams needed only two or three reserve matches to regain match fitness, and should be available for the crucial League match against Liverpool at Anfield on March 3.

Tomorrow, Adams will find himself up against Trevor Senior and Steve Moran, who — like the rest of the Reading first team — have not played since February 1. The third division club's fixture against Southend United tomorrow had already been postponed.

Chester City were less successful in their attempts to change venues to try to beat the weather. They had hoped to play their third-division match against Swansea City tomorrow at Maine Road, where undersoil heating would have guaranteed the fixture, but the Football League has turned their request down. It was considered that it would have been unfair to those third-divison clubs unable to play this weekend.

The "immense potential" of Gordon Watson, which Ron Atkinson, the Sheffield Wednesday manager, referred to yesterday upon completing the signing of the player from Charlton Athletic, could cost them a further £250,000 on top of the £250,000 they have already paid, depending upon League and international appearances.

The Wimbledon board will this weekend discuss the written transfer request of Keith Curle, their captain and central defender. Curle, who signed a four-year contract last summer, will almost certainly be told that he must stay for the time being.

The sale of Curle, widely regarded as the quickest defender in the country along with Des Walker, of Nottingham Forest, would create enormous interest at home and abroad. Bidding would probably begin at £1.5 million.

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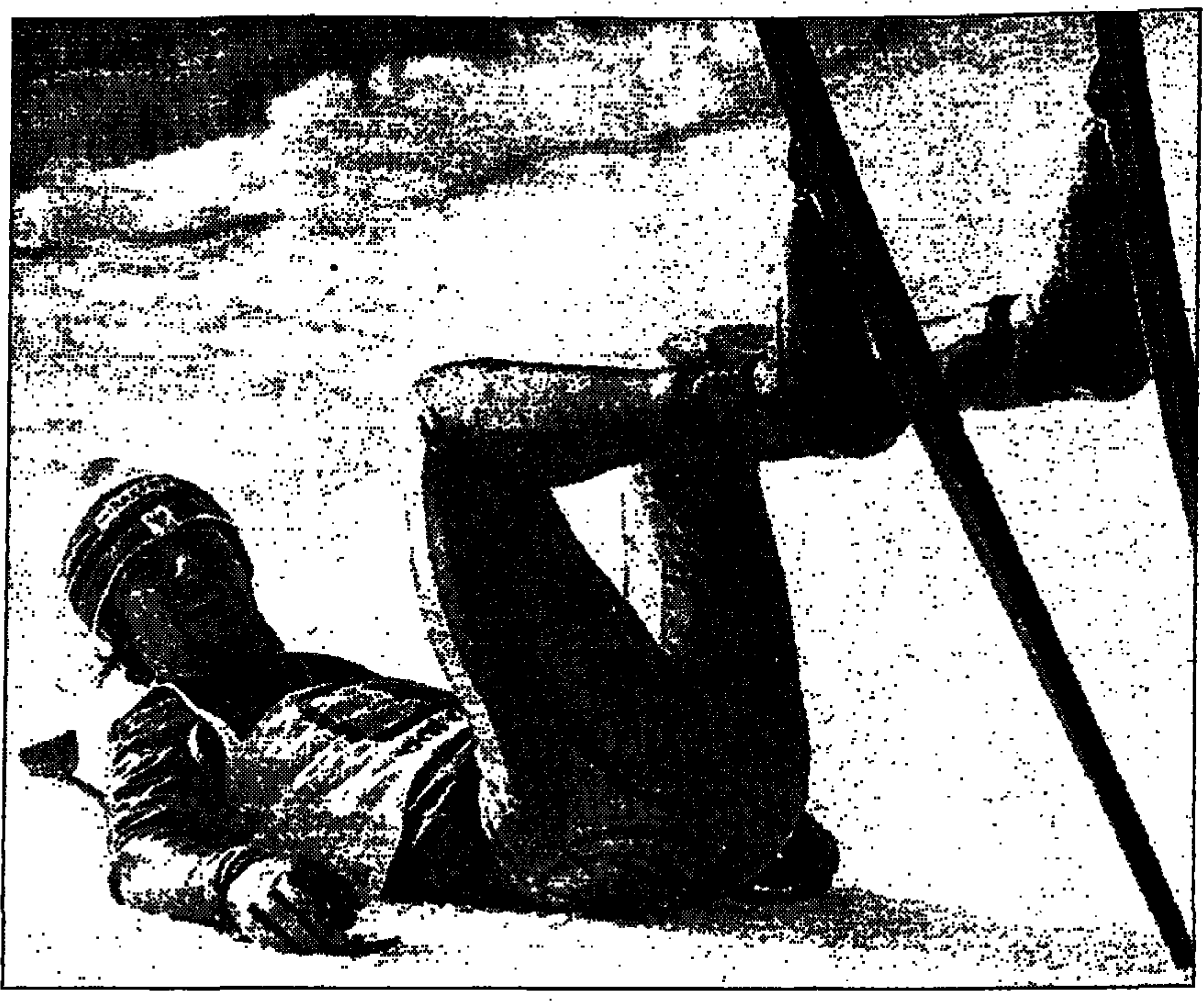
Taking an unfortunate tumble on the slopes



Flat out: Xavier Girard, of France, falls after handing over to his countryman, Fabrice Guy, as the French won the silver medal in the 3 x 10km relay race in the Nordic skiing combined teams event in Val di Fiemme, Italy

Award RFU will not wear

By DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

WHILE England put the finishing touches today to their preparations for tomorrow's Calcutta Cup match against Scotland, the Rugby Football Union's (RFU) committee meets in London and it is a moot point who will have the more active day. Conceivably the focus of attention will not be Geoff Cooke or Will Carling but Michael Pearey, the RFU president.

To Pearey is likely to fall the explanation of developments in the last month, since England's last international appearance in Cardiff. His agenda will include the furore which followed England's victory over Wales and the amateur regulations, the latest confused manifestation of which appeared yesterday when Simon Hodgkinson, England's full back, was drawn unwittingly into the argument.

Hodgkinson is the subject of a new monthly award from the magazine *Rugby News*, in conjunction with Burton, the menswear firm. His seven penalties against Wales won him clothing vouchers worth £100 but Dudley Wood, the RFU secretary, said the player would not be allowed to accept the award. "The rules forbid material reward for playing the game," Wood said, possibly conscious of the pun.

Hodgkinson sensibly declined to enter the debate, though he admitted: "I still cannot see the difference between being allowed to receive some cut glass from a newspaper last week and being denied this little token." It is such prolonging of the amateur regulations to the nth degree which has created the possibility, should the more liberal members of the RFU committee be so minded, of confrontation today.

If the playing side of the game was at fault, in Cardiff when the team management failed to appear at the post-match press conference and subsequently in the poor timing of some of its public pronouncements, the administration in its response has been less than wonderful. The differences between the players and Wood run deep and some members of the committee recognise, and regret, this.

There is also, by the way, tomorrow's game to remember. Only a heavy fall of snow this evening, too heavy for the Twickenham ground staff to cope with, will stop the match and England's endeavour to forget what Carling, the captain, described yesterday as the "shattered dream" of Murrayfield last year.

"We perceive the great weight of expectation on England," Cooke, the team manager, said after his side's return from a private training run at Bisham Abbey, where they will work again this morning. That weight is all the greater because if England are to erase the impression left after the Cardiff game last month, they need the concrete achievement of the five nations' championship, if not the grand slam to which they have come tantalisingly close over the last two seasons.

Should they lose to Scotland — and the last three matches have produced a scratchy win, a draw and a defeat — the public perception, however unjust, will be that they concentrated too much on money-making schemes and not enough on playing good rugby. "This group of players has hauled England back into a position of respectability in world rugby," Cooke reminded.

"But we have nothing to show for some of the good rugby we have played in the last three years. The fear of failure, another failure, could be quite a powerful motivator."

Andrew's view, page 37

Weir stands by for Cronin

By ALAN LORIMER

DAMIAN Cronin, the Bath lock, seems likely to take his place in the Scotland team to play England in tomorrow's Calcutta cup match at Twickenham.

Yesterday Cronin took a full part in the Scotland squad session in Edinburgh and showed no immediate after-effects on the groin strain which kept him inactive at Wednesday evening's practice at Crammond during which he had extensive physiotherapy treatment.

Scotland have, however, added Doddie Weir to their squad, but yesterday Duncan Paterson, the convenor of selectors, said: "The inclusion of Weir in the party is purely precautionary." This would not be the first occasion on which Scotland have taken an extra player, the most recent being when Alan Tait, now playing for Widnes, accompanied the team to Paris. Weir might be put on the bench as cover for the back row as well.

The worries over Alex Moore's fitness seem to have disappeared. The Edinburgh Academicals wing who missed Sunday's training because of a slight thigh strain took a full part in yesterday's two-hour practice.

Yesterday the Scots were back at Murrayfield for their final practice, which was held in private, before leaving Edinburgh for their flight to London.

"We used the international pitch at Murrayfield," Paterson said, adding: "It was in perfect condition. I only wish we could have rolled it up and taken it with us." For today's public training session the Scotland will be at the London Irish ground at Sunbury.

Christie itching for true test

By DAVID POWELL
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

LINFORD Christie did not disappoint yesterday as the British athlete who relishes a challenge when he looked ahead to his race on Sunday against the new 60 metres indoor world record holder. "This is my world championship final," Christie said of his match against Leroy Burrell at RAF Cosford.

Some Cosford curtain-call this will be. In the last international fixture to be held there, Christie will attempt something perhaps even more remarkable than Burrell's performance on Wednesday evening.

In Madrid, Burrell broke the record but was told he had false-started. He asked to try again and successfully took 0.02sec off the four-year-old record held by Lee McRae, his United States compatriot.

At Cosford, in the Dairy Crest meeting, Christie will try to beat Burrell over 60 metres after tea and Michael Johnson at 200 metres before dinner. Johnson dominates world 200 metres running even more than Burrell does the 100 metres.

But it is the 60 metres which has come alive after Burrell's 6.48sec, not to mention the small matter of Christie's five successive defeats by the American. Christie is aiming for the world championships in Seville next month. Burrell is not.

"If I win the world indoors but don't beat Leroy on Sunday, it will put a damper on it," Christie said. "Winning in Seville would just not mean that much." Burrell's time surprised him and he was looking forward to seeing it on television last night. "Ask me afterwards what I think, but he does not have a Ben Johnson-type start," Christie said. Last weekend, Christie was in contention for victory over Burrell in Stuttgart but mistook the 50 metres line for the finish.

Last year, Christie ran 6.51sec and feels he can "go 6.48-6.49". He says he cannot wait for Sunday. "Obviously Leroy is in confident mood, but I am confident too," he said. "Cosford is one of the fastest tracks I have run on." Then, sounding like the agents who still have 2,000 tickets to sell, he added: "Anyone who misses this is going to miss a lot."

No wonder Andy Norman, the meeting promoter, said: "This will be the best invitation meeting in Europe since indoor athletics started." Cut price, too. He is spending "£100,000 to £150,000 — about £50,000 cheaper than Madrid" not just for Burrell, Johnson and Christie, but for two more world No. 1s from last year. But this time Merlene Ottey and Danny Harris, and a group of top Kenyan middle distance runners, will be on the undercard.

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Sussex turn tables on debt

By IVO TENNANT

IN SPITE of finishing bottom of the Britannic Assurance county championship last year, Sussex announced yesterday a record operating profit of £102,334. Of the counties that do not possess Test grounds, only Essex are likely to improve on this figure.

Sussex, however, have had to make provision for a loss of £25,000 on the sale of the house in Worcestershire they purchased from Norman Gifford, their coach. Yet, for the first time, they have been able to carry forward a surplus and are free of debts to their bankers for the first occasion for many years.

Sussex were helped by their share of receipts from the Test and County Cricket Board, £313,973, as opposed to £279,873 in 1989. There was also an increase in donations and legacies of £32,691. Membership was up and income from marketing increased by £40,228 to £224,339. Gate receipts fell from £33,380 to £32,985.

"These are very encouraging figures considering our position in the table," Nigel Bett, the secretary, said. "This shows that if a club is run properly and has a small committee which can make decisions quickly, it should operate at a profit."

Sussex are refurbishing the committee room and members' bar and are looking at ways of developing their Hove ground other than building ahotel by the main entrance. The club wants to raise money itself before approaching other benefactors to contribute to costs, which will run into millions of pounds.

Cup favourites look poised for progress

By KEITH MACKLIN

THE favourites, Wigan and Widnes, appear to have easy tasks in the second round of rugby league's Silk Cut Challenge Cup, despite the uncertain nature of the second-round draw.

The holders, Wigan, travel to meet the winners of the Rochdale Hornets v Chorley tie, while Widnes will lose no sleep over a visit to Barrow or Hunslet.

The one curio of the draw gives Leeds a visit to either Bradford Northern or Leigh. If Northern win, which is a strong possibility, this will continue a remarkable sequences of derby games between the West Yorkshire neighbours during the past few seasons.

DRAW: St Helens v Wakefield Trinity or Trafford Borough; Barrow or Hunslet v Widnes; Keighley or Runcorn Highfield v Ryedale-York or Warrington; Workington Town or Hull Kingston Rovers v Bramley or Oldham; Rochdale Hornets or Chorley v Wigan; Sheffield Eagles or Featherstone Rovers v Salford or Batley; Bradford Northern or Leigh v Leeds; Halifax or Fulham v Nottingham City or Whitehaven. *Ties to be played on the weekend of February 23 and 24.*

The family of sport loses a friend in Pickering

By JOHN GOODBODY

COMMENT

BRITISH sport has lost a flamboyant publicist and television has lost a fine commentator with the death on Wednesday of Ron Pickering, aged 60. His loss will be greatly felt not only by his own family — his wife Jean, the former European long jump champion, and their two children — but also by the whole family of sport.

As a coach, as a commentator, as a journalist and as a campaigner in numerous causes Pickering's enthusiasm was infectious. You felt you could bunny-hop up Mount Everest if Pickering were alongside you.

Among the many people who paid tribute to Pickering yesterday was Lynn Davies, whom he coached to the Olympic long jump title in 1964. Davies said: "I could never have done what I did in athletics without him.

"Ron had the rare ability to communicate with people. It shone through whether he was talking to a group of school children or broadcasting to millions of people."

When he was coaching Davies his understanding of how weight training could help all athletes and not just throwers made him one of the pioneers in Britain. His physical education and teaching background gave him the necessary technical knowledge but what made him so memorable as a coach was his enthusiasm for the subject. One felt galvanised in his presence. In his five-and-a-half years as AAA national coach in Wales and South West, he enraptured scores of competitors.

The BBC, first using him for his technical comments, quickly realised what a natural commentator it had discovered. From the 1968 Olympic Games he was a fixture in the commentary box for important athletics.

However, his breadth of interest and understanding meant he was often the best qualified person to cover other sports, like gymnastics and weight lifting, which he coloured with his passion and expertise. For the viewer, events came alive.

Pickering always kept the common touch, conversing happily with the competitors and remaining close to the grass roots since he was president of Haringey Athletic Club for 17 years. He was never pompous and often self-deprecating about his commentary *faux pas* in after-dinner speeches.

Pickering identified with the under-privileged and particularly with black competitors. He campaigned against sporting links with South Africa so long as Apartheid remained in force. That battle looks like being won. However, he was profoundly disappointed that the London Arena in the Docklands became primarily a venue for major events rather than a centre of indoor training for the youngsters of east London.

The other campaign, with which he closely identified, was the battle against the abuse of drugs in sport. He warned continuously of the dangers and the threat to the future of the ideals he cherished.

I know that he would want the battle against drugs to be fought to the bitter end.

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